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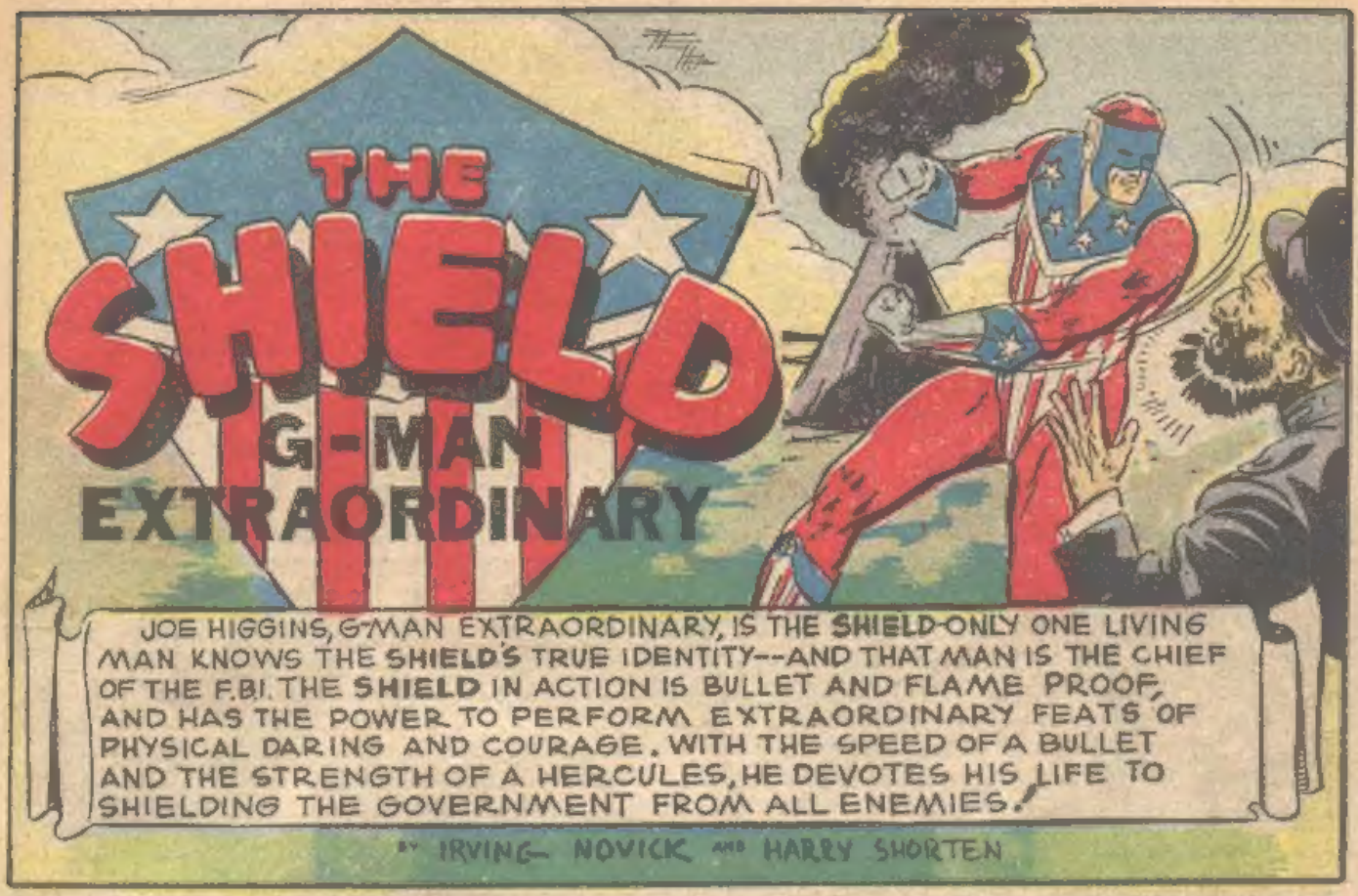
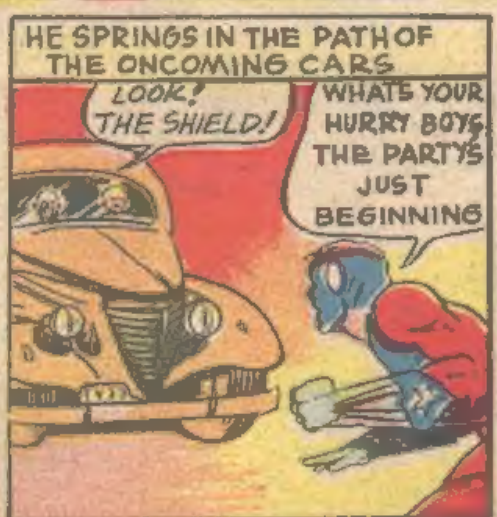

THE SHIELD
G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY
JOE HIGGINS, G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY, IS THE SHIELD-ONLY ONE LIVING MAN KNOWS THE SHIELD'S TRUE IDENTITY--AND THAT MAN IS THE CHIEF OF THE F.B.I. THE SHIELD IN ACTION IS BULLET AND FLAME PROOF, AND HAS THE POWER TO PERFORM EXTRAORDINARY FEATS OF PHYSICAL DARING AND COURAGE. WITH THE SPEED OF A BULLET AND THE STRENGTH OF A HERCULES, HE DEVOTES HIS LIFE TO SHIELDING THE GOVERNMENT FROM ALL ENEMIES!
BY IRVING- NOVICK AND HARRY SHORTEN

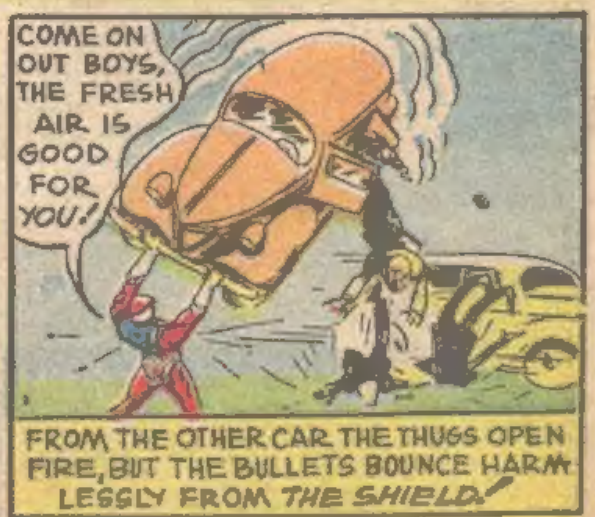
JOE HIGGINS OF THE F.B.I. IS ON HIS WAY TO THE WASHINGTON D.C. AIRPORT
GLORIA'S
WHAT WAS THAT! AN EXPLOSION!

IT CAME FROM THIS DIRECTION I'D BETTER SEE WHAT HAPPENED!

TWO CARS SPEED AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THE BLAST.
THE VIZARD IS A DEAD VUN SURE NOW!
QVICK WE MUST GET AWAY FROM HERE.

FOR THE MOMENT HIGGINS IS UNSEEN BY ANY HUMAN EYE — INSTANTLY HE DOFFS HIS OUTER CLOTHING AND IS REVEALED AS-
THE SHIELD!


HE SPRINGS IN THE PATH OF THE ONCOMING CARS
LOOK! THE SHIELD!
WHATS YOUR HURRY BOYS, THE PARTY'S JUST BEGINNING


COME ON OUT BOYS, THE FRESH AIR IS GOOD FOR YOU!
FROM THE OTHER CAR THE THUGS OPEN FIRE, BUT THE BULLETS BOUNCE HARMLESSLY FROM THE SHIELD!

FROM THE DEBRIS BURSTS ANOTHER AWE INSPIRING FIGURE!
THE WIZARD!
THE SHIELD!
TWO ALMOST LEGENDARY FIGURES, THE MOST POTENT FORCES AGAINST INJUSTICE THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN, MEET!
THAT WAS QUITE A TIP YOU GAVE MY CHIEF ABOUT THE MOSCONIAN SPY RING. IVE BEEN GIVEN FULL AUTHORITY TO GO AHEAD ON THAT. I'M ON MY WAY TO PEARL HARBOR NOW!
MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU OUT.
THE MOSCONIANS HAVE THEIR HEAD-QUARTERS IN KUALA
THE WIZARD BRINGS HIS SUPER BRAIN INTO PLAY.
WELL, SO LONG, I'M ON MY WAY! AND THANKS!
SO LONG! AND GOOD LUCK!
THAT AFTERNOON—WHEN THE TRANS—PACIFIC PLANE LEAVES FOR PEARL HARBOR, JOE HIGGINS IS ABOARD IT!
IN THE MOSCONIAN'S HAWAIIAN ISLAND HEADQUARTERS!
THE ARMY AND NAVY WILL SOON ARRIFFE FOR SPECIAL DEFENSE MANEUVERS. WE HAFF AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GREAT SABOTAGE!
RUIN THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE UND DENN OUR MOSCON-IAN GOVERNMENT INVADES!
JOE HIGGIN'S PLANE SOON REACHES PEARL HARBOR, AND THE GOVERNMENT AGENT SEES A STARTLING SIGHT.
GREAT GUNS! MOSCON-IAN BOMBERS! THEY'RE AIMING FOR THAT BRIDGE!
THE SHIELD LEAPS TO WHAT SEEMS CERTAIN DEATH!
THIS IS WHERE I GET OFF!

A TEN THOUSAND FOOT PLUNGE!
ABOARD THE S.S. MANILA AT ANCHOR IN PEARL HARBOR
GOSH! A GUY CAME OUT OF THAT AIRPLANE!
YOU'RE CRAZY!
THE SHIELD MAKES FOR THE BATTLESHIP WITH POWERFUL STROKES!
AND NOW FOR THE NEXT PART OF MY PLAN!
LIKE A HUMAN FLY THE SHIELD CLIMBS UP THE SIDE OF THE SHIP!
AND UP ONTO THE DECK
IT'S HIM! THE GUY WHAT DONE A STEVE BRODIE!
HOWDY BOYS! I WONDER IF I COULD BORROW AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN FOR A WHILE!
THIS'LL DO!
STOP! YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
BEFORE THE STARTLED CREW CAN GATHER THEIR WITS, THE SHIELD MOUNTS A SMOKE STACK!
THIS IS GONNA BE A GOOD TRICK, IF I CAN DO IT!

THE SHIELD BRINGS EVERY OUNCE OF HIS GIANT MUSCLES INTO PLAY, AND LEAPS
THE TOP OF THE BRIDGE WILL MAKE A GOOD PERCH
ATOP THE HIGHEST TOWER OF THE BRIDGE THE SHIELD TAKES HIS POSITION.
AND NOW FOR A LITTLE TARGET PRACTICE!
A MOSCONIAN BOMBER ABOVE GIVES INSTRUCTIONS.
BE READY TO RELEASE BOMBS, UND DENN VE GO BACK QUVICK TO KUALA.
BUT BEFORE THE SIGNAL CAN BE GIVEN, THE SHIELD'S GUN SCREECHES A SYMPHONY OF DEATH!
COME AND GET IT BOYS! IT'S ON THE HOUSE!
ONE PLANE HOWEVER, MANAGES TO RELEASE IT'S MISSILE OF DESTRUCTION
BUT THE SHIELD LEAPS AND CATCHES THE BOMB BEFORE IT CAN STRIKE!
THIS IS ONE BOMB THAT'LL DESTROY NO BRIDGES!

THE SHIELD HAS SAVED THE BRIDGE, BUT NOW THE BATTLE-SHIP IS BELOW.
I CAN'T LET GO, OR IT'LL HIT THAT SHIP FOR SURE! I'VE GOT TO CARRY IT INTO THE WATER!
THE SHIELD RISKS HIS OWN LIFE TO SAVE THE LIVES OF OTHERS!
A GAS BOMB!
ONLY THE SHIELD'S HERCULEAN VITALITY IS ABLE TO SURVIVE THE GAS. HE SWIMS ASHORE
IM-IM AS WEAK AS A KITTEN.
GRAB HIM! HE MUST BE PUT OUT OF THE VAY, OR HE VILL RUIN ALL OUR PLANS!
THE SHIELD IS AMBUSHED!
DESE SOLID STEEL CHAINS VILL HOLD YOU FOR A VHILE, MR SHIELD!
HA! HA! NOW VE SHOW HIM A FEW MOSCONIAN TRICKS!
THEY ARRIVE AT THE MOSCONIAN FORTRESS IN KUALA!
SO! YOU LIKE TO PLAY VID BOMBS, EH!
VELL, YOU VILL BE TICKLED TO DEATH VID DIS TOY! SHOVE HIM IN DOT CANNON, GOOT!

INSIDE THE CANNON—

GOSH! THIS IS A SPOT, I WONT EVEN BE GOOD DOGMEAT IF I DONT DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!

THE MOSCONIANS AIM THE GIANT GUN AT THE SHIPS ANCHORED IN PEARL HARBOR!

BUT *THE SHIELD* HAS OTHER IDEAS. THE EFFECT OF THE GAS HAS WORN OFF. SO HE FLEXES HIS GIANT MUSCLES, AND.....

THAT TAKES CARE OF THE CHAINS, NOW TO STOP THIS THING FROM GOING OFF!

HE PLACES HIS HANDS ON THE SHELL AND SHOVES IT BACKWARDS TO KEEP THE BACK OF THE CANNON OPEN—

JUST AS THE MOSCONIANS START TO SWING SHUT THE BREECH

THE FIRING PIN MAKES CONTACT, BUT THE BREECH IS OPEN. THE SHELL BACKFIRES, AND THE WHOLE BASE OF THE GUN—CREW AND ALL IS DESTROYED.

*THE SHIELD* LEAPS FROM THE WRECKAGE AND CORNERS ONE OF THE MOSCONIANS.

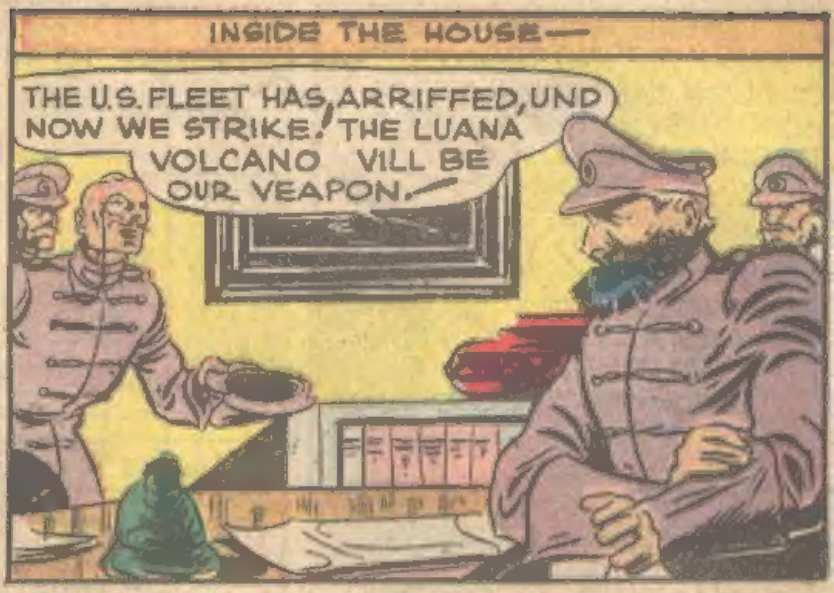
WHERE DO THE BIG SHOTS HANG OUT, QUICK, BEFORE I WRING YOUR NECK!

D-DON'T, IT...IT'S A FEW MILES DOWN THE ROAD!

*THE SHIELD* STREAKS TOWARD MOSCONIAN HEADQUARTERS.

NOW! I'M GETTING SOMEWHERE!

THE SHIELD ARRIVES AND BRINGS HIS ELECTRIC EAR INTO PLAY!
I'LL FIND OUT FIRST WHAT THEIR PLANS ARE!


INSIDE THE HOUSE—
THE U.S. FLEET HAS ARRIFFED, UND NOW WE STRIKE! THE LUANA VOLCANO VILL BE OUR VEAPON!

THE MOSCONIAN MASTER SPY EXPLAINS!
THE CRATER IS SEMI—ACTIVE. BOMBS VILL SET IT OFF. THE CIVIL AND MILITARY POPULATION VILL BE SO BUSY IT VILL GIFF US A CHANCE TO COMMIT SABOTAGE!

THE SHIELD IS HORRIFIED!
WHY-THE MURDERING DOGS! THOUSANDS WILL BE KILLED BY THAT VOLCANO!

THE SHIELD GOES INTO ACTION!
THIS IS A SAMPLE OF WHAT IM GOING TO GIVE YOU!
HELP! IT'S THE SHIELD!

THE SHIELD FLINGS MOSCONIANS ABOUT LIKE TEN PINS!
IM SO MAD IM NOT EVEN ENJOYING THIS!

AND NOW, YOU, SEND OUT ORDERS CANCELLING THE BOMBING OF THE CRATER, BEFORE I REALLY GET ROUGH!
IT'S TOO LATE! THE BOMBERS ARE ALREADY IN FLIGHT!
THE SHIELD SENDS OUT A MESSAGE TO THE FLEET!
I'VE GOT TO LET THEM KNOW THE SITUATION!
ON BOARD THE FLAG-SHIP OF THE U.S. NAVY!
WHAT'S THIS! MOSCONIAN SPIES PLANNING TO ERUPT THE LUANA CRATER. WE MUST ACT IMMEDIATELY!
MESSAGE JUST FLASHED THROUGH, SIR!
THE SHIELD IS UNAWARE OF APPROACHING DANGER!
THAT'S THAT. AND NOW FOR THE LUANA CRATER!
SHH! DESE ELECTIC GUNS VILL GET HIM!
THE SHIELD IS BROUGHT DOWN!—
GOOT! NOW JUMP ON HIM UND VE TIE HIM UP!
WHAT THE!
BUT ONLY TEMPORARILY—
YOU MUST HAVE BOUGHT THOSE GUNS AT A BARGAIN COUNTER!
THE MOSCONIAN BOMBERS APPROACH LUANA!

LEAPING FROM CRAG TO CRAG, RUNNING FASTER THAN THE BOMBERS CAN FLY THE SHIELD RACES TO FRUSTRATE THE MOSCONIAN'S INHUMAN PLAN!
IF I CAN ONLY GET THERE IN TIME
THE SHIELD ARRIVES TOO LATE!
THEY'VE DONE IT!
THE US AIR SQUADRON ARRIVES AND DRIVES OFF THE MOSCONIANS
WELL, ANYWAY THOSE RATS WILL GET THEIRS!
INSIDE THE VOLCANO, THE MOLTEN LAVA BOILS FURIOUSLY. A MOMENT NOW, AND IT WILL ERUPT, SENDING LIQUID DEATH SPEWING DOWN ONTO THOUSANDS OF UNSUSPECTING PEOPLE!
THE SHIELD DECIDES HIS COURSE OF ACTION
IT MIGHT WORK AT THAT!
IF I CAN DAM UP THIS CRATER TEMPORARILY, IT'LL GIVE THE INHABITANTS A CHANCE TO MOVE OUT OF DANGER!

A RACE AGAINST TIME! THE SHIELD PERFORMS IN A FEW MINUTES LABOR OF YEARS FOR MOTHER NATURE!
THESE ROCKS WILL STOP THE ERUPTION FOR A LITTLE WHILE!
IN A PLANE ABOVE, THE PILOTS LOOK WITH AMAZEMENT AT THE FEATS OF STRENGTH PERFORMED BY THE SHIELD BELOW!
LOOK AT THAT WILL
HOLY MACKEREL HE'S LIFTING MOUNTAINS
U.S.A.
THE SHIELD WEAKENS THE RIM OF THE CRATER AND IT COLLAPSES!
HOLY SMOKE! THE WHOLE THING IS CAVING IN!
THE SHIELD HURTLES TOWARD
AN OUTJUTTING LEDGE SAVES HIM TEMPORARILY
THE ARMY PLANE, SIGHTING THE SHIELDS PREDICAMENT, SWINGS DOWN TO A PERILOUS LANDING ON THE RIM OF THE CRATER!
MADE IT!
WHEW! FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT WE'D SURELY BE WRECKED!
CADET KEITH KORNELL, THE WEST-POINTER, ON SPECIAL DUTY IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS — TO THE RESCUE!
QUICK! LOWER ME DOWN THERE WITH A ROPE
YOU'RE CRAZY! YOU'LL BOTH BE KILLED!

THAT LEDGE DOESN'T LOOK TOO STRONG IT'LL ONLY HOLD UP FOR A FEW MINUTES MORE!
BELOW THE SHIELD, THE LAVA BOILS FURIOUSLY!
THE SHIELD REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!
WHAT HAPPENED!
THE SHIELD SHAKES HIMSELF FREE OF THE DEBRIS JUST AS CADET KORNELL REACHES HIM!
THANKS FOR TRYING TO SAVE MY LIFE, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE RISKED IT!
LOOK, THAT LEDGE IT'S GIVING WAY!
THE SHIELD LEAPS TO SAFETY!
HANG ON, YOUNG FELLOW FREE RIDE!
WH WHAT THE!
LATER, ON BOARD THE FLAGSHIP, THE SHIELD RECEIVES THE ADMIRAL'S THANKS
YOUR HEROIC ACTION STALLED THE VOLCANO LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO BRING THE PEOPLE TO SAFETY!
I ONLY DID MY DUTY SIR!
STILL LATER JOE HIGGINS REPORTS TO HIS CHIEF!
THE MOSCONIAN SPY RING AT PEARL HARBOR IS COMPLETELY CLEARED OUT!
GOOD WORK HIGGINS!
BUT THE DIABOLIC PLOT OF THE MOSCONIANS AGAINST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT STILL GOES ON IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF—
PEP COMICS
AND THE WIZARD, THE MAN WITH THE SUPER-BRAIN AND THE WEST POINTER, FIGHT AGAINST THESE SAME INHUMAN SCHEMERS IN THE APRIL ISSUE OF— TOP NOTCH COMICS NOW ON SALE.

# The COMET

by Jack Cole.....

THE COMET PROTECTOR OF RIGHT IS JOHN DICKERING, WHO HAS DISCOVERED A GAS THAT WILL MAKE HIM LIGHTER THAN AIR.. HE ALSO FINDS THAT HIS EYES GIVE OFF A DISINTEGRATING RAY THAT ONLY GLASS WILL STOP.! THE COMET HAS RECENTLY BEEN KIDNAPPED AND HYPNOTIZED INTO COMMITTING A SERIES OF CRIMES. REGAINING HIS SENSES HE FINDS HE IS A WANTED MAN AND VOWS TO CLEAR HIS NAME AT ALL COSTS!!

HOT LEAD WHISTLES PAST THE COMET
I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE AT THIS RATE,— SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE ABOUT THIS OPEN SEASON ON MY HEAD!!

SO HOPING FOR THE BEST AND PREPARED FOR THE WORST, THE COMET GIVES HIMSELF UP:—
ALRIGHT YOU CAN HAVE THE CARCASS
THE COMET!! D-DONT M-M-MOVE!
THE COMET IS HAND-CUFFED AND LED TO THE CITY JAIL —
ALL I ASK IS A CHANCE TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE!
THAT'S A HOT ONE!— HUNDREDS OF EYE WITNESSES TO HIS KILLIN'S AN' HE SAYS 'NOT GUILTY!'
NEWS OF THE COMET'S CAPTURE SPREADS AND A GROUP OF AROUSED CITIZENS STORM THE JAIL
WE WANT THE COMET!
KILLER!!
RELEASE HIM TO US OR WE COME IN AFTER HIM!
ONE MINUTE! GO BACK TO YOUR HOMES AND LET THE LAW TAKE IT'S COURSE!
SO IT'S LYNCHING THEY WANT EH?— LOOKS LIKE IT DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD TO SURRENDER AFTER ALL—ONLY STIRRED UP MORE TROUBLE! WE GOT TO DIVERT THEIR ATTENTION FROM THE JUG BEFORE THEY RIP IT TO SHREDS
THE COMET RAISES HIS VISOR AND BREAKS LOOSE IN FULL VIEW OF THE MOB
THERE HE IS!! — SHOOT HIM DOWN!!
PEACEFUL CITIZENS GONE MAD!!— AND I CAN'T FIGHT BACK! I THINK THEY'RE DOING RIGHT, BUT I'LL FIND SOME WAY TO SHOW THEM HOW WRONG THEY ARE!!
SUDDENLY A BULLET RIPS THROUGH THE COMET'S SHOULDER!
I'M HIT!
DAZED BY THE BULLET THE COMET DASHES FROM THE IRATE MOB
MUST FIND SAFETY!—

CAN'T GO ON REST

MERCIFUL HEAVENS! A MAN! MEBBE HE'S DEAD!!

DON'T TALK AD REST IS WHAT YE BE NEED'N!!

AD WHILE YE WERE SICK I THOUGHT BEST NOT TO TROUBLE YE BUT THEY'S THINGS NEED EXPLAININ'!

MIGHTY FISHY SOUNDIN', BUT THEY'S SOMETHIN' ABOUT YE THAT TELLS ME YOU'RE SPEAKIN THE TRUTH! SON, I BELIEVE YOUR STORY!!
AT LAST SOME ONE BELIEVES ME!!

COME TO THINK OF IT THERE IS SOMETHING THAT NEEDS STRAIGHTENING AROUND HERE

SEE THAT SMALL MINING TOWN IN THE VALLEY BELOW?- T'S "THE VILLAGE OF THE DOOMED"!
WHY SUCH A HANDLE?

EVER HEAR OF 'SILICOSIS'? COMES FROM BAD VENTILATION IN MINES. SILICA DUST IS BREATHED IN BY THE MINERS. IT COLLECTS IN THE LUNGS AND CAUSES THE DISEASE! IT EVENTUALLY TURNS TO TUBERCULOSIS.— NEARLY EVERY MAN DOWN THERE IS SUFFERING FROM SILICOSIS!!
WHY DON'T THE MEN PROTEST?
THEY HAVE BUT THE OWNERS SAY THE EXPENSE OF NEW VENTILATING MACHINES WILL BANKRUPT THEM! THE MEN FEAR THE LOSS OF JOBS MORE THAN LOSING THEIR HEALTH SO THEY CONTINUE TO TOLERATE THE BAD CONDITIONS.
THIS NEEDS LOOKING INTO!!
THE COMET PAYS A VISIT TO THE MINE OFFICE —
GENTLEMEN I'LL GET TO THE POINT - WHY HAVEN'T YOU INSTALLED VENTILATORS IN YOUR MINES??
WHO ARE YOU - TO COME BUTTING INTO OUR OFFICE?
NEVER MIND!!— THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL BE INTERESTED TO LEARN OF CONDITIONS HERE!!
BOSS!! — CAVE-IN AT MINE NO. 2!!
WITHOUT WAITING FOR AN ANSWER TO HIS QUESTION, THE COMET RACES TO THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT
IT'S GUS WAGNER!- CAUGHT BY THE LEG
RAISING HIS VISOR, THE COMET TRIES TO BLAST AWAY THE ROCK
NO USE - THE RAY WON'T AFFECT SILICA! WE'LL HAVE TO AMPUTATE!
NOTE SILICA IS THE MAIN CONSTITUENT OF GLASS
THE COMET FOCUSES HIS RAY ON THE TRAPPED MAN'S LEG
SUCCESS!!
DID YUH SEE THAT? - IT'S A MIRACLE!!- WHO IS HE??
NOW FOR SOME OTHER BUSINESS

THE COMET RETURNS TO THE OFFICE AND FINDS IT EMPTY
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE??
JUST BEEN GLANCING OVER YOUR BOOKS, RILEY, AND I FIND THAT YOU HAVE ENJOYED A GREAT PROFIT — CONTRARY TO YOUR CLAIMS! YOU CAN WELL AFFORD TO PUT IN NEW VENTILATORS!!
LEDGER
WHY YOU!!— I'LL —
CLAM UP! I'M GIVING YOU THREE WEEKS TO INSTALL THAT EQUIPMENT OR ELSE!!
NOW I KNOW WHO HE IS!!— THE COMET! SAAAY, THIS PUTS A NEW LIGHT ON THINGS HE'S WANTED FOR MURDER
HE'LL BE COMING BACK IN THREE WEEKS — HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO NAB HIM, GET THE REWARD AND SAVE OURSELVES THE EXPENSE OF INSTALLING THE VENTILATORS
TRUE TO HIS WORD, THE COMET RETURNS THREE WEEKS LATER —
WELL, HAVE YOU DONE YOUR LITTLE JOB??
WE'RE HAPPY TO SAY THAT
YOUR GAME IS UP, MR. COMET! — MOVE! — JUST ONCE! I DARE YOU!!
THE PRICE ON YOUR HEAD IS A PRETTY ONE AND ALL WE WANT IS AN EXCUSE TO CLOSE THAT MOUTH OF YOURS. DEAD MEN CAN'T SQUAWK ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS!!
THE COMET LEAPS INTO ACTION HIS BOUYANCY ALLOWS HIM TO BOUNCE AROUND THE OFFICE LIKE A RUBBER BALL!
WELL I MOVED!
5

SINCE YOU REFUSE TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR WORKERS, I'LL SEE TO IT THAT THEY KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT HOW YOU HAVE PLACED ECONOMY ABOVE HUMAN LIVES!!
THE COMET ENTERS ONE OF THE MINES —
THESE COMPANY LEDGER BOOKS OUGHT TO CONVINCE THEM OF THE TRUTH!
MEANWHILE, THE OWNER, RILEY AND HIS PARTNER RUN TOWARD THE MINE
QUICK! — GRAB ONE OF THESE CHLORINE TANKS!!
WHAT FOR? I DON'T MEAN —?
EXACTLY! THE HEAVY GAS WILL FLOW DOWN AND FINISH THAT WEASEL!
BUT OUR MEN! — THEY'LL BE KILLED TOO! THAT'S MURDER!
GAS!!
CAN'T BREATH!
RIGHT AND LEFT THE MINERS FALL GASPING
THE COMET FLASHES HIS RAY REPEATEDLY AT THE CEILING DRILLING HOLES TO THE SURFACE
NEED VENTILATION!
THEN HE BURNS HOLES INTO THE FLOOR PERMITTING THE GAS TO DROP INTO THEM
FRESH AIR!!

LEAVING THE MEN TO RECOVER THE COMET ZECMS SPWARE
SOMEONE IS GOING TO PAY FOR THIS
MR. RILEY, YOU'VE A DEBT TO PAY !!
YOU!! IT CAN'T BE!!
RILEY PICKS UP AN OBJECT FROM THE GROUND
I'M NOT LICKED YET !!
DROP THAT CLUB !-
THE COMET
BOOM
GOOD HEAVENS!! IT'S DYNAMITE!!
DONT KILL ME! SPARE ME, I BEG OF YOU! - YOU CAN HAVE ANYTHING IF YOU'LL LET ME LIVE !!
ALL I WANT FROM YOU IS A WRITTEN ORDER FOR THE VENTILATING EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO SAFEGUARD THE HEALTH OF YOUR MINERS
HERE IT IS THE COMPLETE ORDER!
NOW FORK OVER THE CASH - I'LL SEE TO IT THAT THIS ORDER IS FILLED WITHOUT ANY SLIP-UPS!
WE'LL BE TICKLED TO HAVE YOU STAY WITH US SON! YOU'RE SAFE HERE!
THANKS POPS BUT -
I MUST BE MOVING! PERHAPS SOMEDAY THE PUBLIC WILL ACCEPT ME BACK INTO SOCIETY BUT MEANWHILE I'VE GOT A HEAVY DATE WITH SOME OTHER HUMAN TERMITES !!
ANOTHER COMET ADVENTURE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

# THE PRESS GUARDIAN

EVEN THE PUBLISHER OF THE DAILY EXPRESS DOESN'T KNOW THAT HIS EFFETE SON, PERRY CHASE, SECRETLY IS THE DAUNTLESS PRESS GUARDIAN, FOE OF ALL ENEMIES OF THE PRESS

TO THE DAILY EXPRESS: THIS IS A WARNING! YOU HAVE A BUNCH OF DOCUMENTS SHOWING THAT CERTAIN MEN HAVE BEEN STEALING A MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR FROM THE STATE. WE ADMIT WE TOOK THE DOUGH, BUT YOURE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT WE'VE ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF YOUR NOSEY CAPITOL CORRESPONDENT AND WE'RE READY TO TAKE CARE OF THE DAILY EXPRESS IF YOU PUBLISH ONE LINE OF THE STORY!

SEND ME TO THE CAPITOL, DAD ;I'D LIKE TO UNCOVER THE ONE MAN OUR DOCUMENTS DIDN'T NAME- THE TOP MAN.

IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA. PERRY IS SO SIMPLE THE CROOKS WOULD IGNORE HIM!

IT'S AGAINST MY JUDGEMENT, BUT GO AHEAD!

A NEW TASK FOR THE PRESS GUARDIAN!

ABOARD THE PULLMAN, CAPITOL BOUND!

WE KNOW THE DAILY EXPRESS SENT YOU— MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS AT THE CAPITOL, OR ELSE ....

OR ELSE WHAT?

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME WISE GUY, UNLESS YOU WANNA GET HURT!

YOU MEAN I MIGHT GET HURT, LIKE THIS?

PERRY ENTERS HIS NEW OFFICE AT THE CAPITOL—

CYNTHIA BLAKE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? THIS IS A DANGEROUS JOB I'M ON!

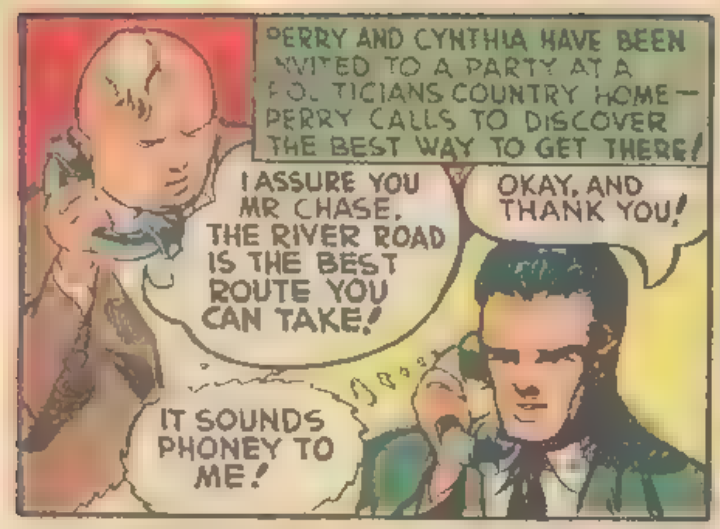
I'M TO BE YOUR ASSISTANT. YOUR FATHER GAVE ME THE JOB!

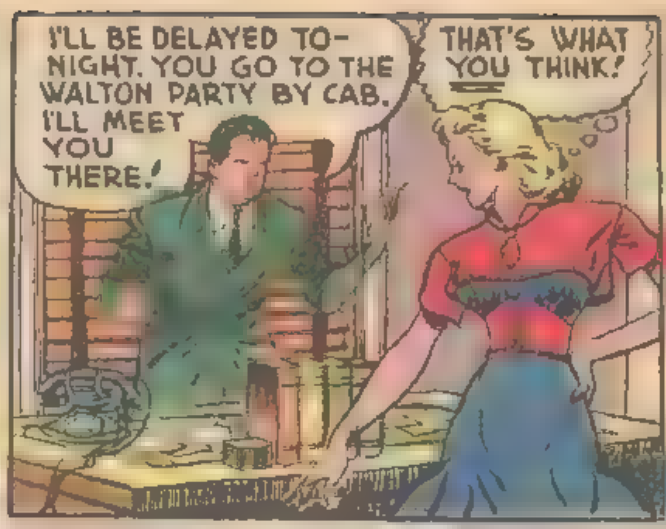
HERE'S A NEW PRESS RELEASE, SIR!

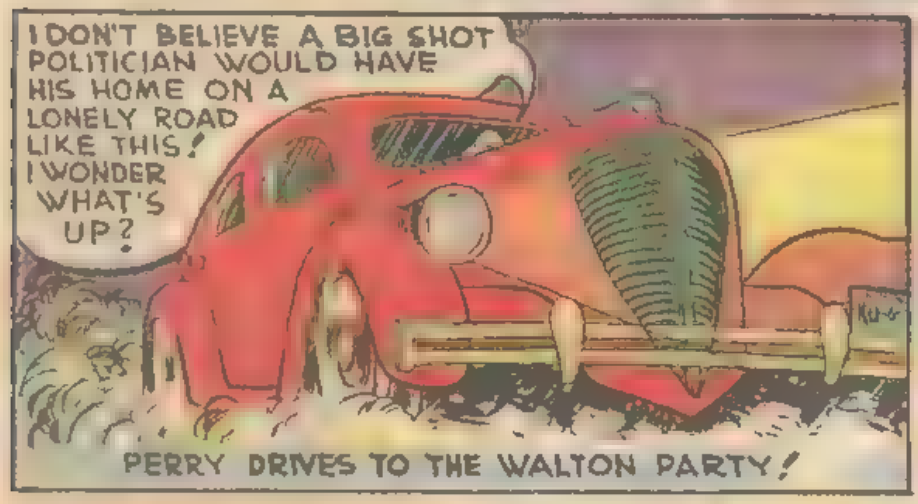
PERRY'S NEW ASSISTANT IS THE GIRL HE RESCUED FROM THE MORGUE ABOARD THE ONLY LIVING PERSON BESIDE PERRY'S VALET WHO KNOWS THAT PERRY IS THE PRESS GUARDIAN

THE EXPRESS AIN'T LAID OFF LIKE YOU TOLD 'EM TO.— THEY GOT A NEW MAN HERE!

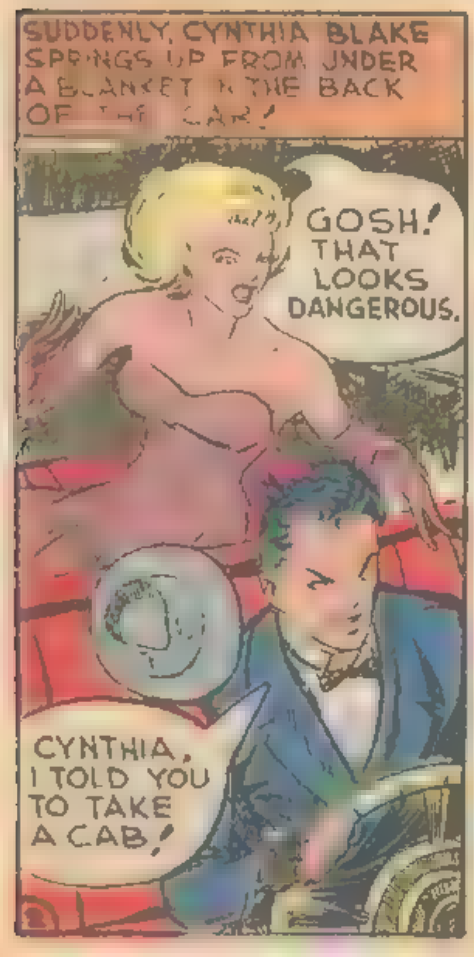
SP... PERRY E... CAN HE ... THEM?

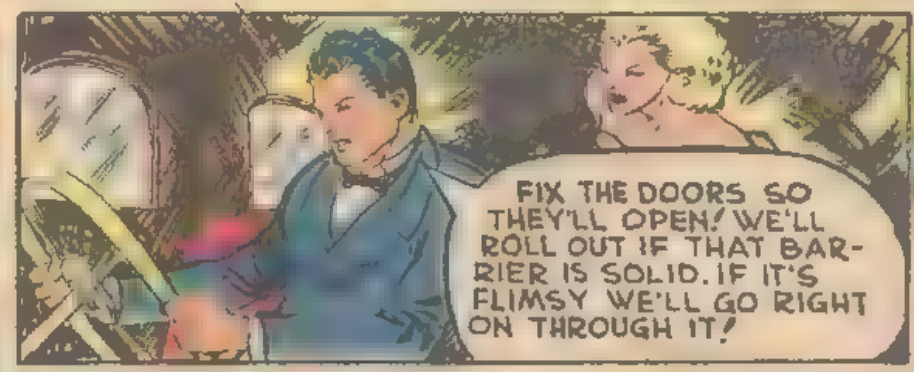

PERRY AND CYNTHIA HAVE BEEN INVITED TO A PARTY AT A POLITICIANS COUNTRY HOME— PERRY CALLS TO DISCOVER THE BEST WAY TO GET THERE!
I ASSURE YOU MR CHASE, THE RIVER ROAD IS THE BEST ROUTE YOU CAN TAKE!
OKAY, AND THANK YOU!
IT SOUNDS PHONEY TO ME!

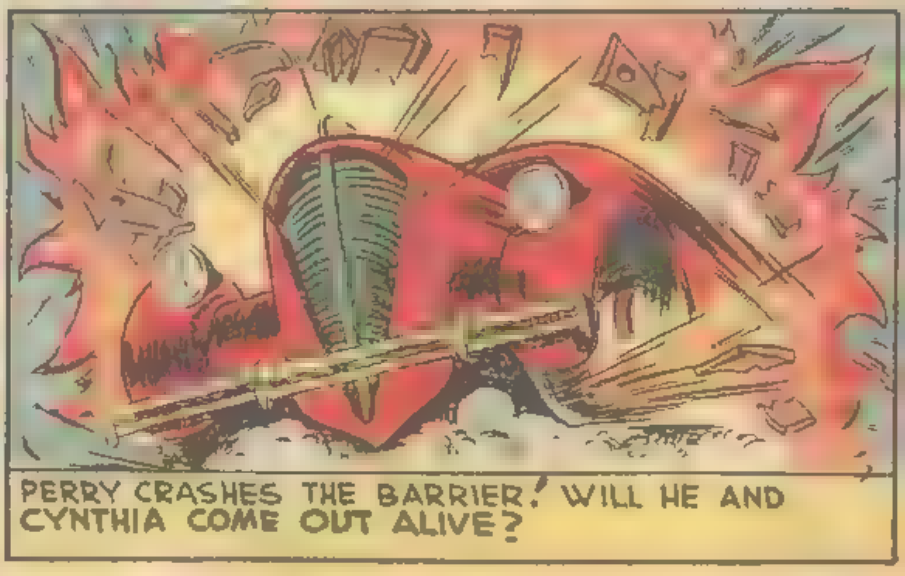

I'LL BE DELAYED TONIGHT. YOU GO TO THE WALTON PARTY BY CAB. I'LL MEET YOU THERE!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!


I DON'T BELIEVE A BIG SHOT POLITICIAN WOULD HAVE HIS HOME ON A LONELY ROAD LIKE THIS! I WONDER WHAT'S UP?
PERRY DRIVES TO THE WALTON PARTY!

AH! SO THAT'S THEIR GAME!
A BLAZING BARRIER BLOCKS THE ROAD!


SUDDENLY, CYNTHIA BLAKE SPRINGS UP FROM UNDER A BLANKET IN THE BACK OF THE CAR!
GOSH! THAT LOOKS DANGEROUS.
CYNTHIA, I TOLD YOU TO TAKE A CAB!


FIX THE DOORS SO THEY'LL OPEN! WE'LL ROLL OUT IF THAT BARRIER IS SOLID. IF IT'S FLIMSY WE'LL GO RIGHT ON THROUGH IT!


PERRY CRASHES THE BARRIER! WILL HE AND CYNTHIA COME OUT ALIVE?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? STAY LOW: THEY'RE SHOOTING AT US!
I'M OKAY, BUT I SUPPOSE I'D FEEL BETTER IF I'D WORN SHOCK ABSORBERS!
THIS CONVINCES ME THAT OUR HOST IS TOP MAN IN THE GRAFT RING!
AT THE PARTY...
THOSE TWO WILL HAVE TO BE WATCHED!
I'M GOING TO GIVE HIS OFFICE A THOROUGH GOING OVER!
PERRY'S SENSITIVE EARS CATCH THE ORDER WHISPERED TO THE BUTLER!
AH, HERE ARE THE PAPERS!
THE PRESS GUARDIAN! WHERE DID HE COME FROM?
THAT'S RIGHT, THERE THEY ARE BUT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO DO YOU ANY GOOD!
GO GET HIM, BOYS, AND PUT HIM AWAY WITH THE OTHER SNOOPER!
PITCH IN, BOYS, THE MORE THE MERRIER!

THE HOST FLINGS A CHAIR. BUT THE PRESS GUARDIAN SEES IT COMING, AND DUCKS, JUST IN TIME!
THANKS FOR SAVING ME THE TROUBLE!
I'LL GET YOU! YOU SPYING DOG! I'LL FIND OUT ONCE AND FOR ALL WHO IS THE PRESS GUARDIAN!
THIS WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!
AND THIS WILL FINISH YOU!
NOT YET, MY FINE FEATHERED FRIEND!
NOT WHILE I STILL HAVE ONE OR TWO OF THESE AROUND!
MEANWHILE DOWNSTAIRS...
THERE IS A TELEPHONE CALL FOR YOU, MISS. THIS WAY PLEASE.
THAT'S ODD— NO ONE BUT PERRY KNOWS THAT I'M HERE!
HELLO . HELLO . HELLO. THERE'S NO ONE ON THIS
TOSS HER INTO THE ATTIC WITH THAT OTHER RAT FROM THE DAILY EXPRESS!

THE BATTLE STILL RAGES IN THE HOST'S DEN.....
ARE YOU READY TO ADMIT YOUR PART IN THE GRAFT RING?
I'LL CONFESS, I'LL ADMIT ANYTHING.... ONLY DON'T HIT ME AGAIN!
ALL RIGHT, GET UP HERE AND SIGN THIS CONFESSION.
I'LL SIGN NOTHING BUT YOUR DEATH WARRANT, RAT, TAKE THIS!
OTHERS HAVE TRIED TO SHOOT THE PRESS GUARDIAN BEFORE.... WITH NO BETTER LUCK!
PLEASANT DREAMS!
NOW TO SEE IF I CAN GET OUT OF HERE!
THEY'VE GOT CYNTHIA!
SHE'LL BE OKAY UPSTAIRS!

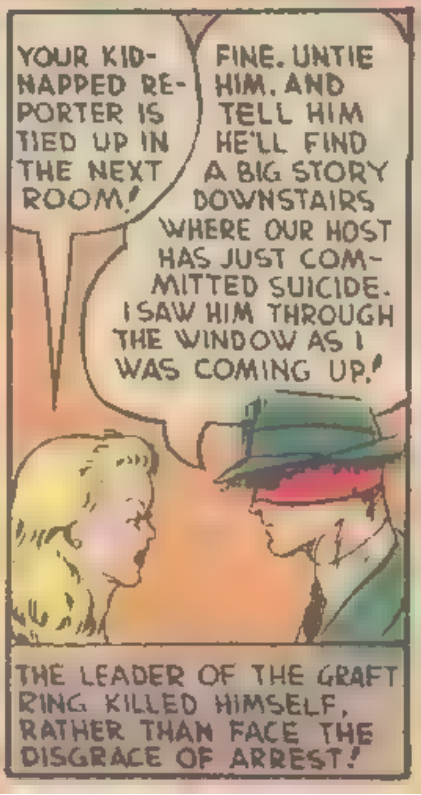
I'LL MEET LESS INTERFERENCE BY GOING UP THIS WAY!
THE PRESS GUARDIAN TAKES A DANGEROUS ROUTE!

HELP!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT— RAT!

YOU CAME UP HERE ASKIN' FOR IT, BUDDY, AND YOU'RE GONNA GET IT!
CAN THE PRESS GUARDIAN BEAT THE THUG'S TRIGGER FINGER?

YOU'LL HAVE TO BE FASTER THAN THAT— RAT!

THE PRESS GUARDIAN OVERWHELMS HIS FOE!


YOUR KIDNAPPED REPORTER IS TIED UP IN THE NEXT ROOM!
FINE. UNTIE HIM, AND TELL HIM HE'LL FIND A BIG STORY DOWNSTAIRS WHERE OUR HOST HAS JUST COMMITTED SUICIDE. I SAW HIM THROUGH THE WINDOW AS I WAS COMING UP!
THE LEADER OF THE GRAFT RING KILLED HIMSELF, RATHER THAN FACE THE DISGRACE OF ARREST!

RUSH THOSE PAPERS TO THE OFFICE. I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE SOMEONE ELSE LEARNS THAT PERRY CHASE, WHO THEY THINK IS DEAD DRUNK UNDER A TABLE, IS REALLY— THE PRESS GUARDIAN!
ONCE MORE THE PRESS GUARDIAN HAS OUTWITTED ENEMIES OF THE PRESS. FOLLOW HIS NEW ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF —
PEP COMICS

# GIANTS OF THE WEST

PHOTOGRAPHS of the big trees of California showing a cowboy on horseback beside one of the giants of the forest are popular with tourists. The cowboy, in comparison to the tree, looks like an ant might beside a telegraph pole.

Most of the tourists are not aware that the big trees of California are of a species found, in nature, no place else on earth. Also that they are the oldest living things on earth

The trees of the Sequoia family are cone bearing, but are not true pines. While pine trees are widely distributed about the earth, the Sequoia is found only in the one location, a fact for which no botanist has ever been able to account unless it is because of the peculiarly even temperature to be found in the valleys of the Golden Gate state

There are two species of the Sequoia both native to California. One is known as the big or giant tree and the other is the redwood. Where attempts have been made to cultivate these trees in European or other botanical gardens, the few specimens to live any length of time have shown a dwarf or stunted growth.

The giant trees of California were old when the pyramids were being built. They were giants when Columbus discovered America and when Nero fiddled in Rome. The largest specimens are estimated to be over 7000 years old

These trees are protected, but one of a smaller size was cut down for experimental and research purposes and its annual rings numbered 2125. An idea of the size of the trees can be gained by the fact that twenty men with arms outstretched can just encircle the tree known as General Sherman. If one of the men happens to have short arms the twenty will miss circling the tree by about six inches.

GENERAL SHERMAN while among the largest at the base is not among the tallest of the trees. The Keystone State, slightly smaller at the base than the General Sherman, is 325 feet high and some just top the 400-foot mark

In the hollow of one of the trees six ponies and mules have been stabled. A dancing pavilion has been made by polishing the stump of one gigantic specimen A church in Santa Rosa, California has been built entirely from the wood of one tree, with a considerable bulk of scraps and kindling left over

The wood of both types of Sequoia is light and durable and takes on a beautiful satiny finish. In the early days it was extensively used for interior decoration and the trees from which it came are the most valuable in the world

Snuff boxes made by early Spanish settlers from this wood are still in existence and are fabulously valued

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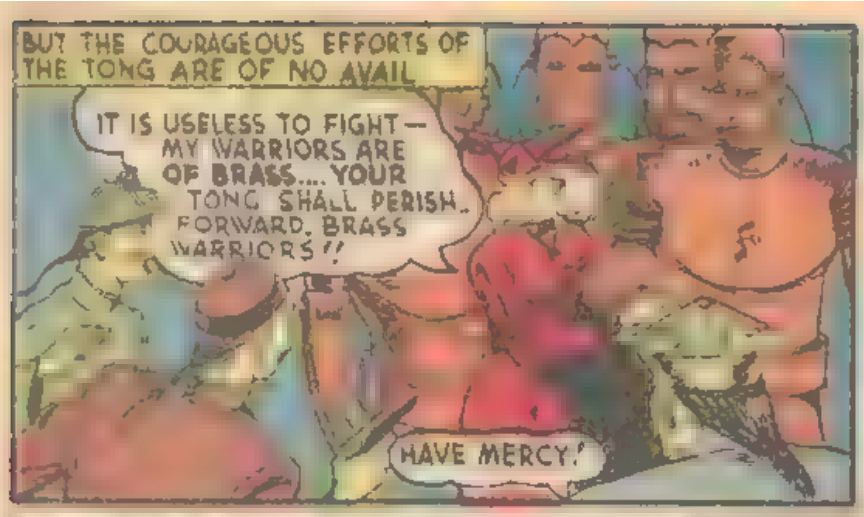
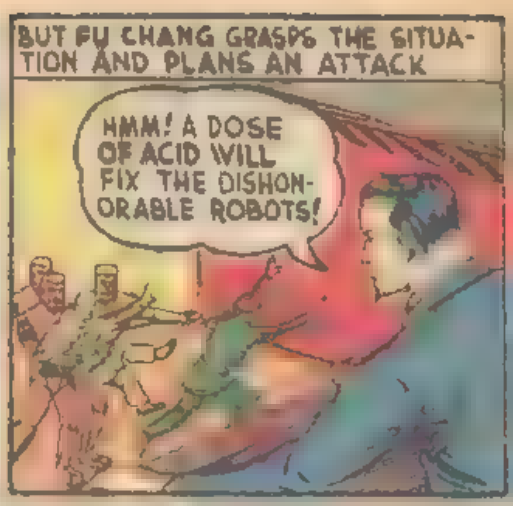
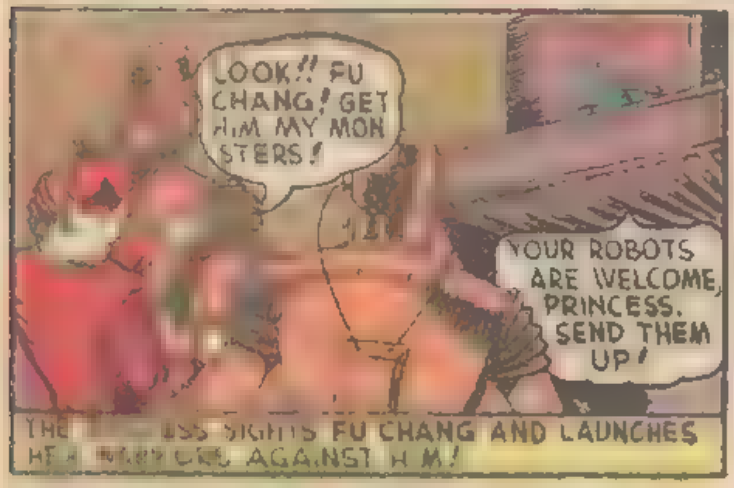
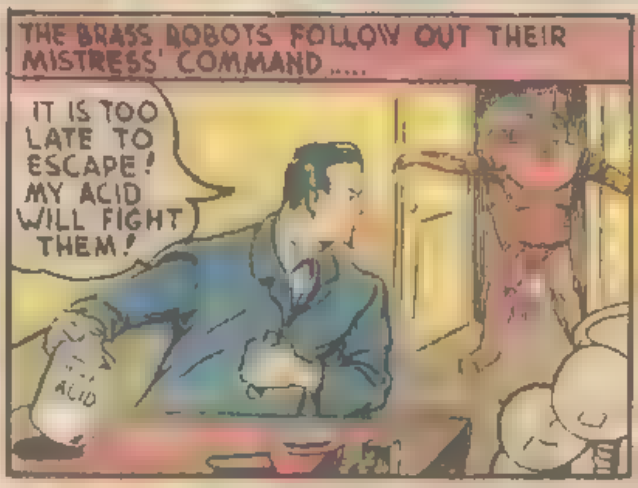
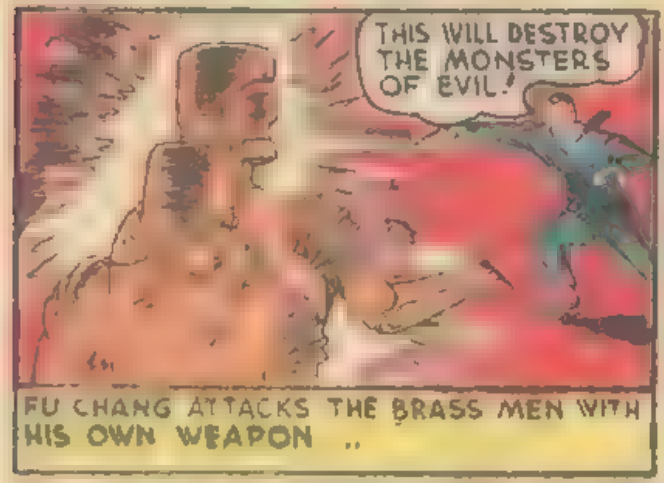
FU CHANG
International
DETECTIVE
FU CHANG, INTERNATIONAL DETECTIVE, WHO RESIDES IN CHINATOWN, ACHIEVES WITH THE AID OF THE MAGIC CHESSMEN OF ALADDIN, PROSPERITY AND PROTECTION FOR HIS PEOPLE. HE HAS ORGANIZED THE TI YAN TONG AS A SECRET SOCIETY TO DO GOOD, AND RIGHT WRONG NATURALLY. THIS TONG IS HATED AND FEARED BY EVILDOERS—AND ONE NIGHT—.
Tim Streeter
FORWARD, DEALERS OF DEATH!
PRINCESS LING FOY, THE BEAUTIFUL SORCERESS, HAS BROUGHT TO LIFE A STRANGE HORDE OF EVIL CREATURES!
PRINCESS LING FOY LEADS HER BRAZEN WARRIORS TO THE MEETING OF THE TI YAN TONG
WARRIORS OF BRASS! GO ATTACK THE MEETING OF TI YAN TONG!
LOOK, ENEMIES ARE UPON US!
THE MEN OF THE TI YAN TONG PREPARE TO RESIST THE INVASION.....
THESE MEN ARE INVULNERABLE.... MY SWORD BREAKS!
MY BULLETS CANNOT PIERCE THEM!

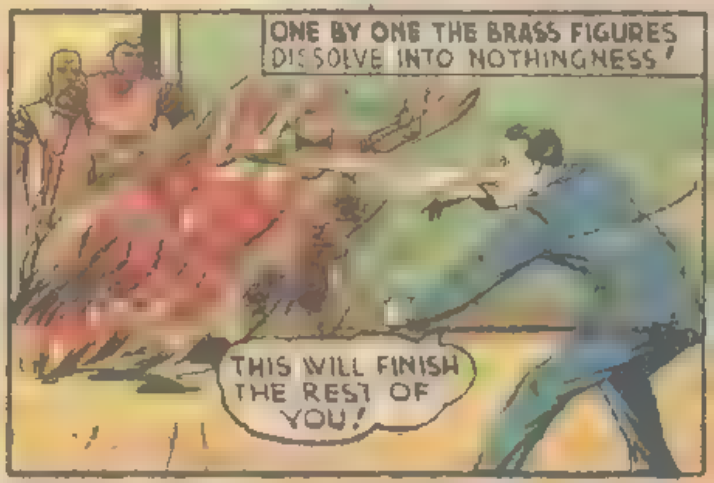

BUT THE COURAGEOUS EFFORTS OF THE TONG ARE OF NO AVAIL
IT IS USELESS TO FIGHT— MY WARRIORS ARE OF BRASS.... YOUR TONG SHALL PERISH. FORWARD, BRASS WARRIORS!!
HAVE MERCY!

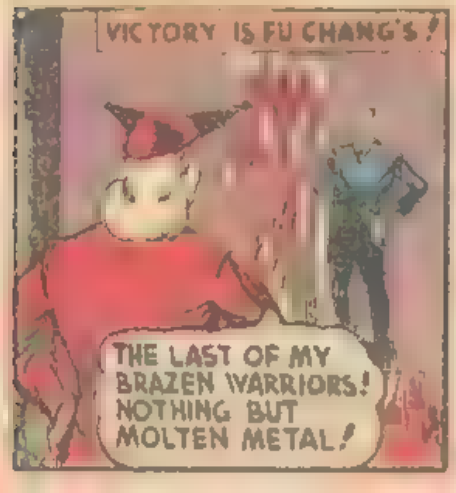

BUT FU CHANG GRASPS THE SITUATION AND PLANS AN ATTACK
HMM! A DOSE OF ACID WILL FIX THE DISHONORABLE ROBOTS!


LOOK!! FU CHANG! GET HIM MY MONSTERS!
YOUR ROBOTS ARE WELCOME, PRINCESS. SEND THEM UP!
THE BRASS SIGHTS FU CHANG AND LAUNCHES HER ROBOTS AGAINST HIM!

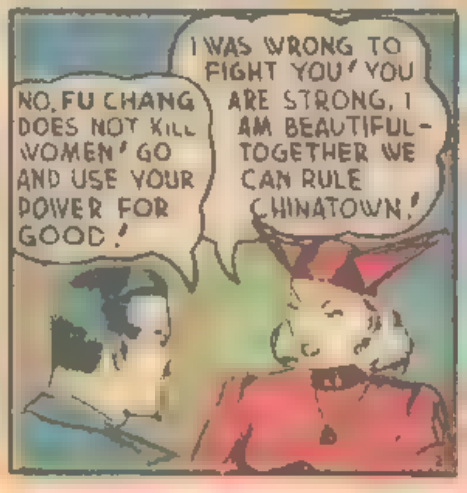

THE BRASS ROBOTS FOLLOW OUT THEIR MISTRESS' COMMAND.....
IT IS TOO LATE TO ESCAPE! MY ACID WILL FIGHT THEM!
ACID


THIS WILL DESTROY THE MONSTERS OF EVIL!
FU CHANG ATTACKS THE BRASS MEN WITH HIS OWN WEAPON ..

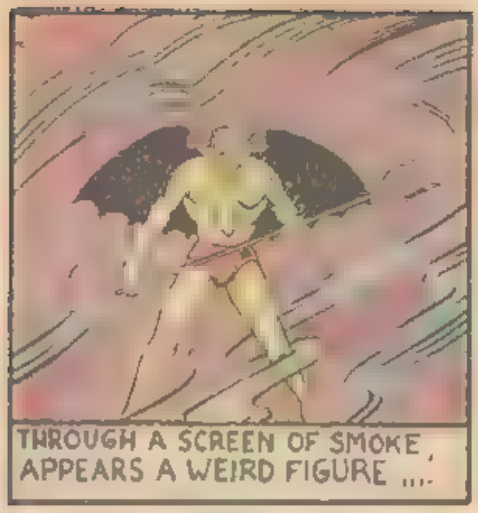

ONE BY ONE THE BRASS FIGURES DISSOLVE INTO NOTHINGNESS!
THIS WILL FINISH THE REST OF YOU!


VICTORY IS FU CHANG'S!
THE LAST OF MY BRAZEN WARRIORS! NOTHING BUT MOLTEN METAL!

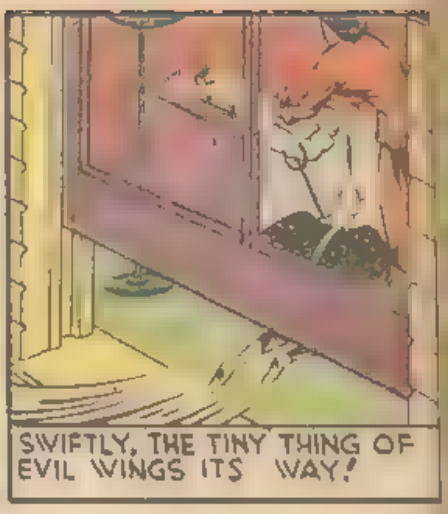
I AM DEFEATED... KILL ME!

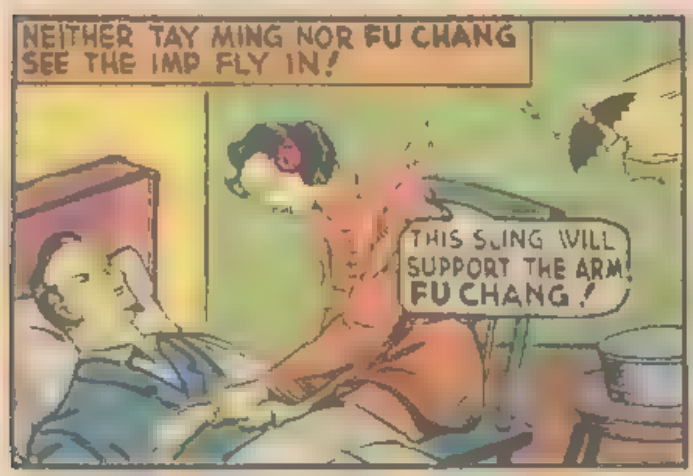

I WAS WRONG TO FIGHT YOU! YOU ARE STRONG, I AM BEAUTIFUL— TOGETHER WE CAN RULE CHINATOWN!
NO, FU CHANG DOES NOT KILL WOMEN! GO AND USE YOUR POWER FOR GOOD!

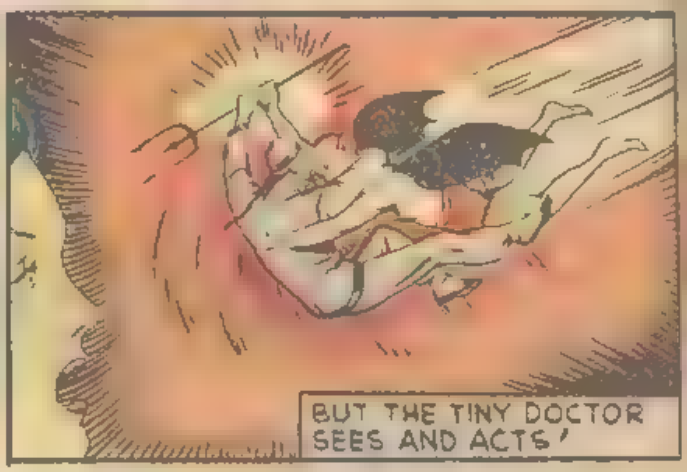
IT CANNOT BE! FU CHANG'S HEART LIES ELSE-WHERE!
THE PROUD ONE REJECTS MY LOVE! HE WILL BE SORRY!
ANGRY AT FU CHANG'S COLDNESS, THE WITCH PRINCESS PLOTS REVENGE!
HE THINKS THAT THE BRAZEN WARRIORS WERE MY ONLY MAGIC---- BUT NO! I MODEL THIS WAX INTO----
---AN IMAGE OF FU CHANG! AND AS THIS MAGIC DAGGER PIERCES THE ARM---
EVEN AS SHE ATTACKS THE IMAGE WITH AN ENCHANTED WEAPON----
WHAT IS THE TROUBLE
OH! MY ARM!
THE PAIN IS DREADFUL! BRING HELP, TAY MING!
A MOMENT, FU CHANG! I WILL INVOKE THE GOD OF OUR PEOPLE!
THE GOD OF TAY MING AND FU CHANG GIVES AID— WITH A RAY FROM HIS EYE HE BRINGS THE MAGIC CHESSMEN TO LIFE!
GREAT GOD OF MERCY, GIVE FU CHANG A HELPER AND HEALER!
LET THIS LITTLE DOCTOR LIVE, AND CURE FU CHANG!
BUT ONLY A PARTIAL CURE IS EFFECTED!
SEE, HE BRINGS YOU RELIEF FROM THE PAIN!
YES BUT I'M STILL WEAK AND THE ARM WILL NOT MOVE!
MEANWHILE.... AT THE LAIR OF THE WITCH PRINCESS!
SO MUCH FOR FU CHANG. NOW TO ATTACK TAY MING, HIS SWEETHEART!

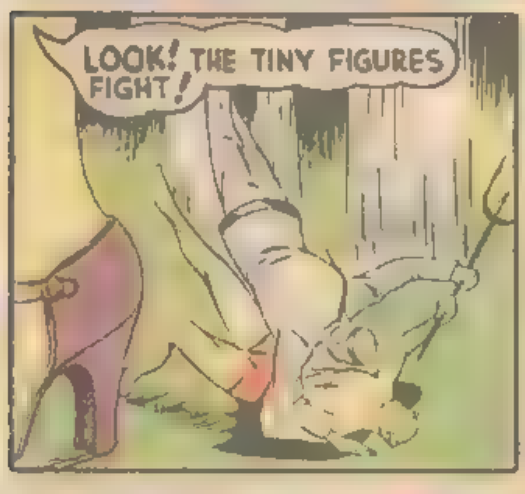

THROUGH A SCREEN OF SMOKE, APPEARS A WEIRD FIGURE ....

AH, LITTLE IMP OF THE SMOKE FLY, DESTROY TAY MING!
I HEAR AND OBEY!

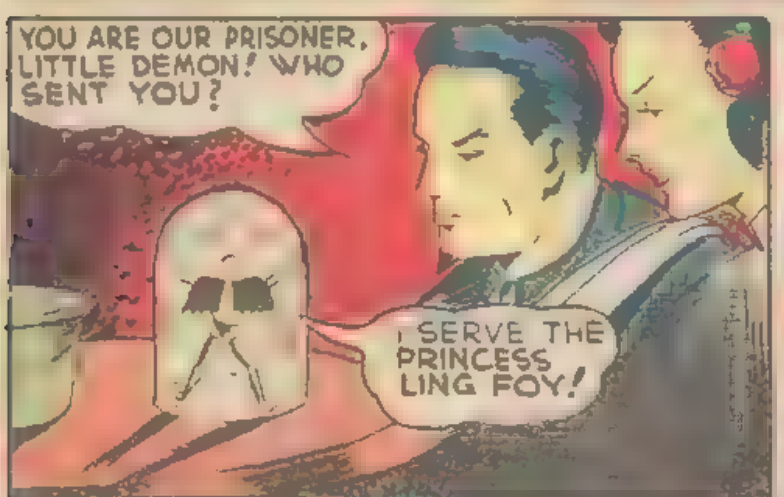

SWIFTLY, THE TINY THING OF EVIL WINGS ITS WAY!

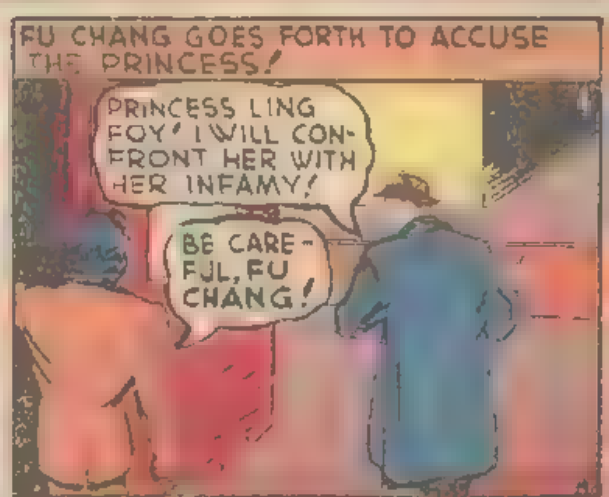

NEITHER TAY MING NOR FU CHANG SEE THE IMP FLY IN!
THIS SLING WILL SUPPORT THE ARM! FU CHANG!

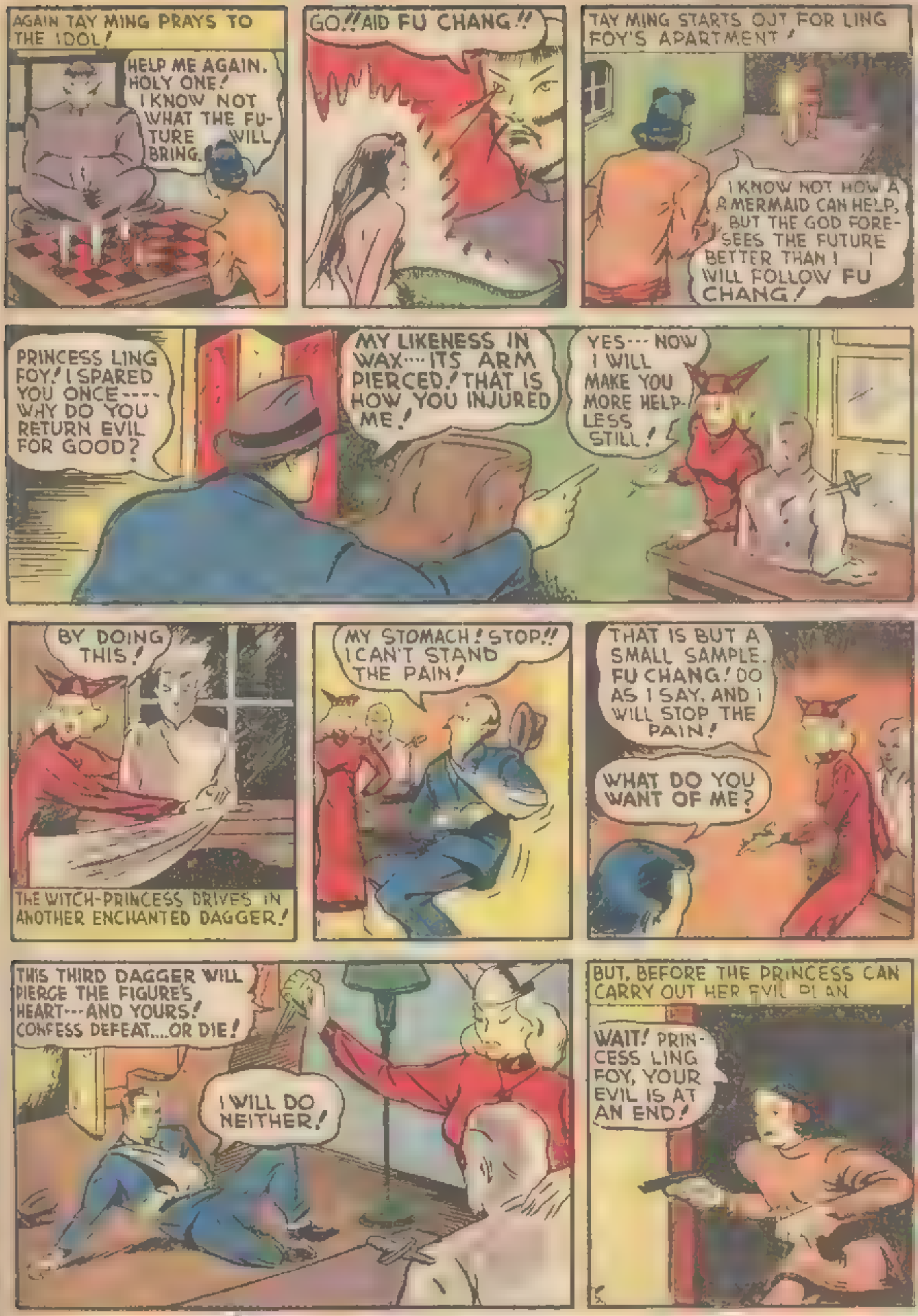

BUT THE TINY DOCTOR SEES AND ACTS!


LOOK! THE TINY FIGURES FIGHT!

QUICKLY THE CHESSMAN DOCTOR SUBDUES THE IMP!
DRIVE THE ENEMY IN HERE, LITTLE FRIEND!


YOU ARE OUR PRISONER, LITTLE DEMON! WHO SENT YOU?
I SERVE THE PRINCESS LING FOY!


FU CHANG GOES FORTH TO ACCUSE THE PRINCESS!
PRINCESS LING FOY! I WILL CONFRONT HER WITH HER INFAMY!
BE CAREFUL, FU CHANG!

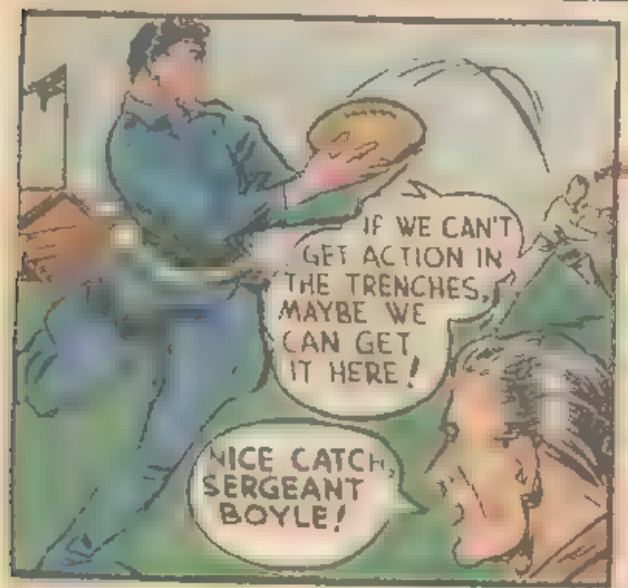

AGAIN TAY MING PRAYS TO THE IDOL!
HELP ME AGAIN, HOLY ONE! I KNOW NOT WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING.
GO!! AID FU CHANG!!
TAY MING STARTS OUT FOR LING FOY'S APARTMENT!
I KNOW NOT HOW A MERMAID CAN HELP, BUT THE GOD FORESEES THE FUTURE BETTER THAN I. I WILL FOLLOW FU CHANG!
PRINCESS LING FOY! I SPARED YOU ONCE---- WHY DO YOU RETURN EVIL FOR GOOD?
MY LIKENESS IN WAX---ITS ARM PIERCED! THAT IS HOW YOU INJURED ME!
YES--- NOW I WILL MAKE YOU MORE HELPLESS STILL!
BY DOING THIS!
THE WITCH-PRINCESS DRIVES IN ANOTHER ENCHANTED DAGGER!
MY STOMACH! STOP!! I CAN'T STAND THE PAIN!
THAT IS BUT A SMALL SAMPLE. FU CHANG! DO AS I SAY, AND I WILL STOP THE PAIN!
WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?
THIS THIRD DAGGER WILL PIERCE THE FIGURE'S HEART---AND YOURS! CONFESS DEFEAT....OR DIE!
I WILL DO NEITHER!
BUT, BEFORE THE PRINCESS CAN CARRY OUT HER EVIL PLAN
WAIT! PRINCESS LING FOY, YOUR EVIL IS AT AN END!

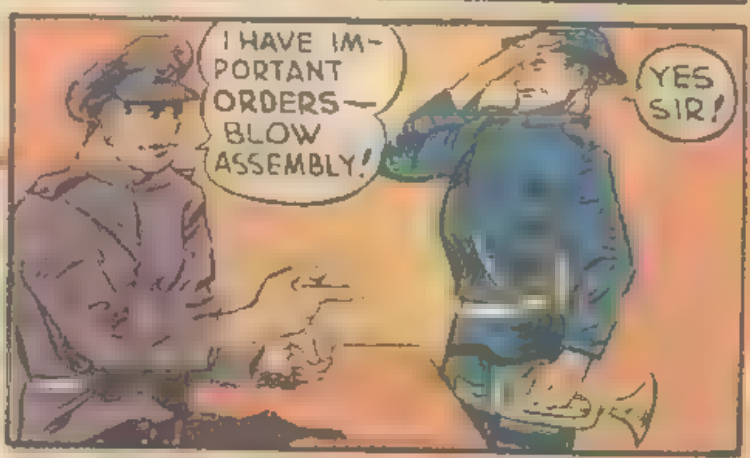
THIS BULLET WILL FOREVER END YOUR TORTURE OF CHINATOWN'S BELOVED FU CHANG!
THE PRINCESS FALLS AGAINST THE IMAGE OF FU CHANG . AND KNOCKS IT OUT OF THE WINDOW INTO THE WATER OF THE BAY!
YOU SAVED MY LIFE--- BUT THAT IMAGE IS LOST! I WILL LIVE FOREVER IN PAIN!
SWIM AFTER THE IMAGE, FISH-MAIDEN! DRAW OUT THE ENCHANTED DAGGER!
OBEDIENTLY, THE LITTLE FIGURE SWIMS DEEP!
SHE REACHES THE IMAGE AND REMOVES THE MAGIC WEAPONS!
WITH THE DAGGERS TAKEN FROM THE IMAGE FU CHANG RECOVERS, AT ONCE!
ALL PAIN IS GONE— AND ALL WEAKNESS!
LET US SHOW OUR THANKS BY CONTINUING GOOD WORKS!
THE GOD KNEW WHAT THE FUTURE WOULD DEMAND--- AND CHOSE THIS SWIMMING FIGURE TO HELP US IN TIME OF NEED!
ANOTHER ADVENTURE OF FU CHANG FIGHTING BLACK MAGIC WITH WHITE, WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF—
PEP COMICS

# SERGEANT BOYLE

SERGEANT BOYLE, AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENT, JOINED THE BRITISH ARMY TO FIND EXCITEMENT — AND HE FINDS PLENTY!

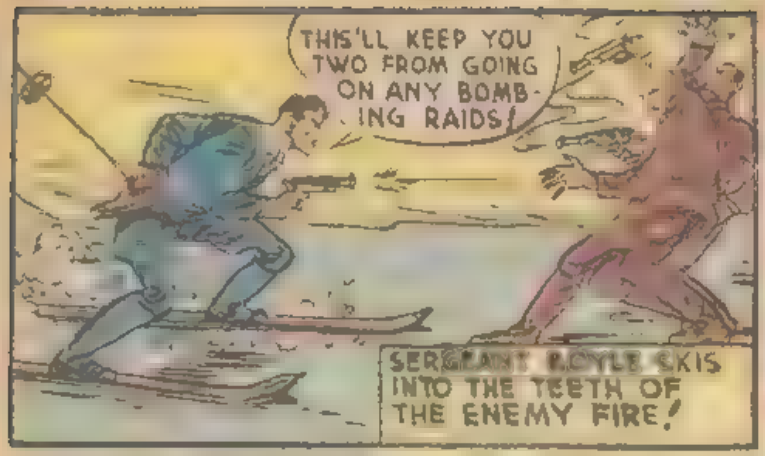
by BIRO AND SUNDELL

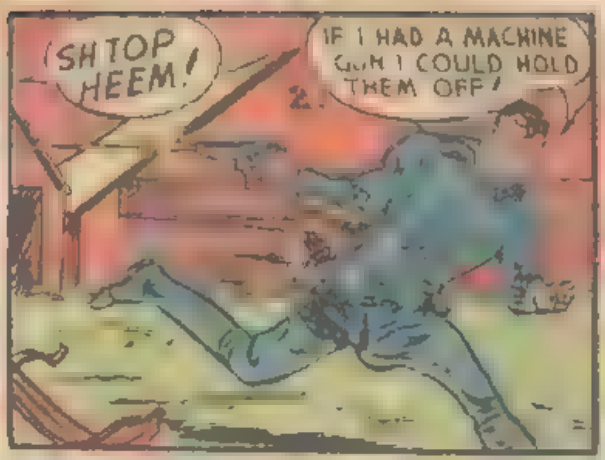


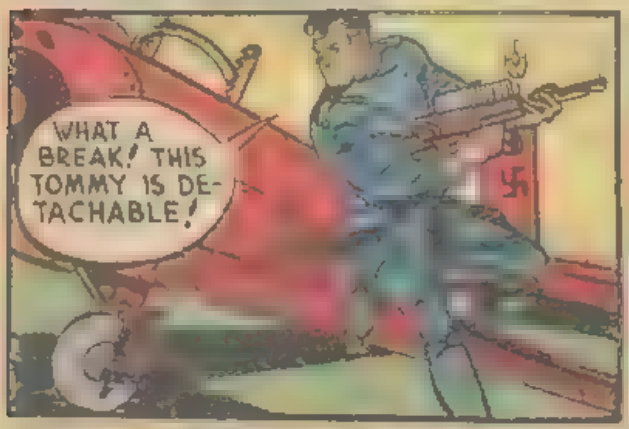



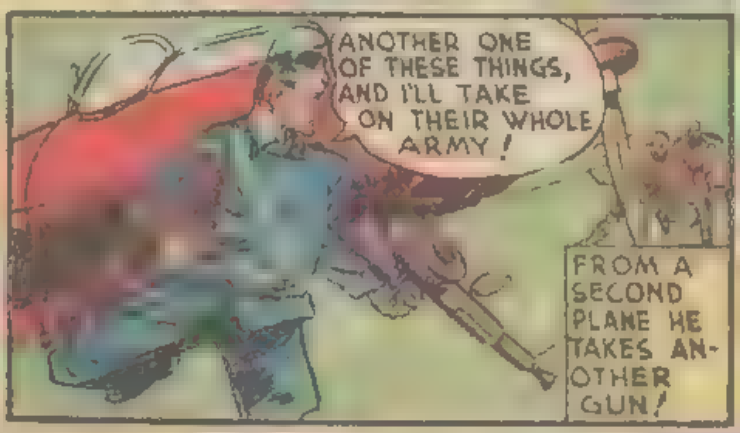
THERE'S A SHELL HOLE FULL OF GERMANS UP AHEAD — I'LL CHARGE THEM FROM THE FRONT,
AND YOU FELLOWS GET THEM FROM THE REAR!
IN NO MAN'S LAND!
LOOK! A CRAZY BRITISHER - VE GET HIM GOOT!
KAMERAD
MEN, YOU TAKE THESE PRISONERS BEHIND THE LINES, I'M GOING ON AHEAD! I'LL MEET YOU HERE LATER!
OKAY, SERGEANT!
HMM — A GERMAN SUPPLY CAMP. TAKING FOOD UP INTO THOSE MOUNTAINS. I'LL BET THAT'S WHERE BATTALION A IS TRAPPED!
BANG!
A NAZI SNIPER SPOTS BOYLE AND OPENS FIRE!
BANG!
TOO BAD, BABY, YOUR FIRST MISS IS YOUR LAST!
2
BOYLE'S SHOT SNAPS A BRANCH, AND THE SNIPER CRASHES TO THE GROUND!

YAH! YAH! I TELL YOU SOMETHINK BETTER TOO!
IS THERE A BATTALION TRAPPED IN THOSE MOUNTAINS? TALK QUICK OR I'LL WRAP THIS GUN AROUND YOUR BEAN!
DERE'S A SODICIDE BOMBING SQUAD AT THE AIRPORT! DEY VILL VIPE OUT LONDON TODAY!
YOU'RE A RAT! A SNIPER IS BAD ENOUGH, BUT YOU'D EVEN BETRAY YOUR OWN COUNTRY TO SAVE YOUR HIDE!
WHAT?
BOMB LONDON, EH?— HMM— IF I TRY TO STOP THAT, BATTALION A WILL BE WIPED OUT TO THE LAST MAN! WHAT TO DO?
BATTALION A, IS SOLDIERS— DYING IS THEIR JOB!
BUT LONDON IS FULL OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN! AND I'M THE ONLY GUY WHO CAN HELP THEM!
HMM SNOW!
IN AN EVACUATED TRENCH, BOYLE FINDS SKIS!
THESE WILL GET ME TO THE AIRPORT FAST!
I HOPE I CAN GET THERE BEFORE THEY TAKE OFF!
THERE IT IS, AND THE BOMBERS ARE READY TOO!
LOOK! AN ENGLISH SOJER— ON SKIS!
MAYBE I CAN SAVE LONDON, BUT ITS TOO BAD ABOUT THE BOYS IN BATTALION A!
SOUND THE ALARM!
3


THIS'LL KEEP YOU TWO FROM GOING ON ANY BOMBING RAIDS!
SERGEANT BOYLE SKIS INTO THE TEETH OF THE ENEMY FIRE!

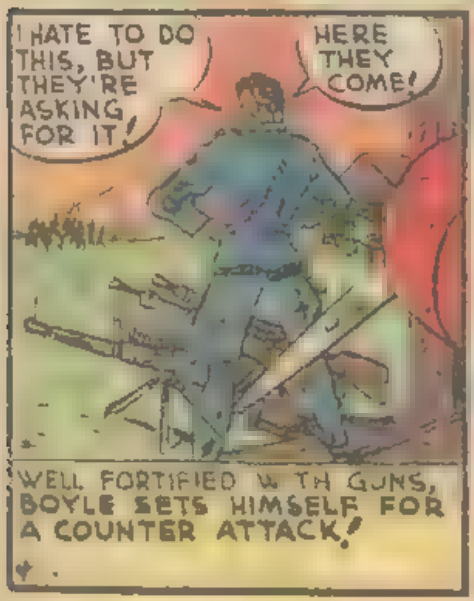

SHTOP HEEM!
IF I HAD A MACHINE GUN I COULD HOLD THEM OFF!


WHAT A BREAK! THIS TOMMY IS DETACHABLE!


ANOTHER ONE OF THESE THINGS, AND I'LL TAKE ON THEIR WHOLE ARMY!
FROM A SECOND PLANE HE TAKES ANOTHER GUN!

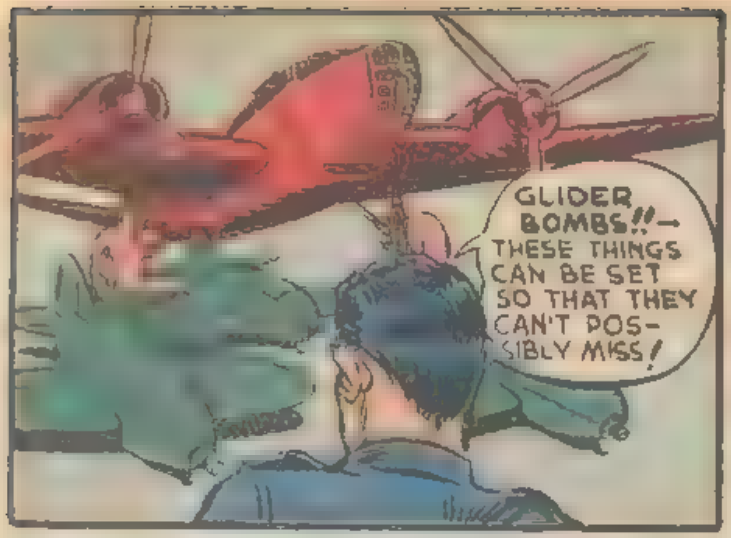
THOSE BABIES ARE GETTIN' TOO CLOSE!
AFTER TAKING A THIRD GUN, BOYLE STARTS THE MOTOR OF THE PLANE!

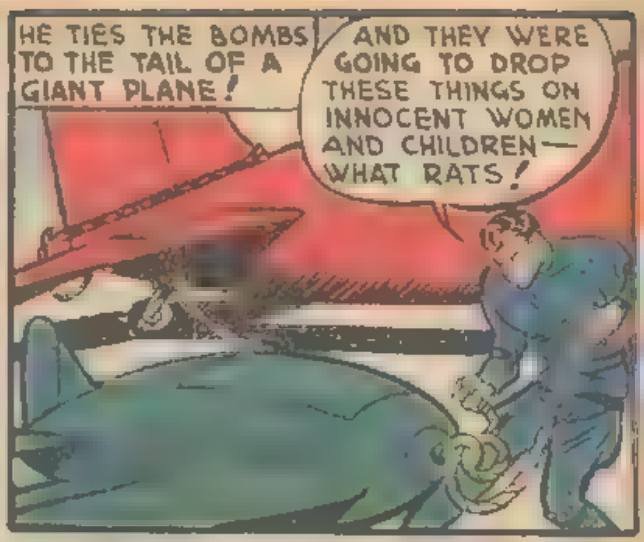
SIC 'EM, PLANE!
ACH! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!

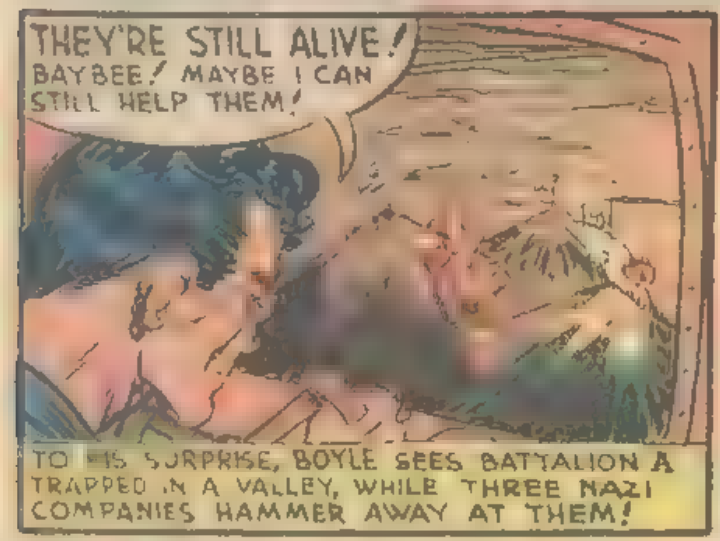

I HATE TO DO THIS, BUT THEY'RE ASKING FOR IT!
HERE THEY COME!
WELL FORTIFIED WITH GUNS, BOYLE SETS HIMSELF FOR A COUNTER ATTACK!

ACH!

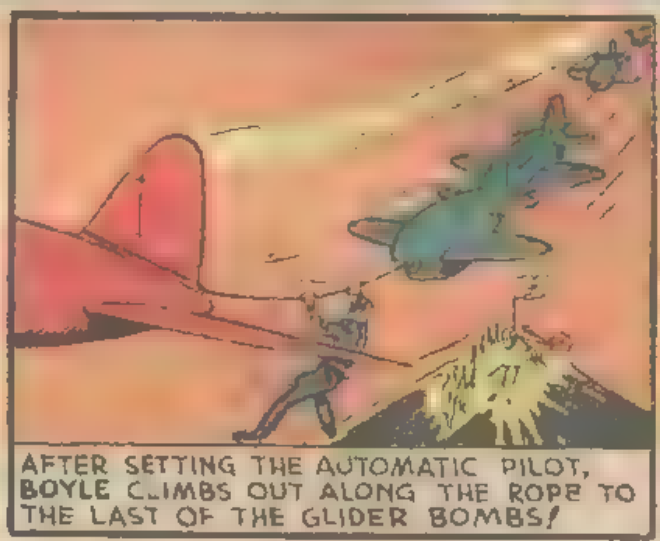
THAT WAS FOR THE BOYS IN BATTALION A!
ENTIRE STAFF!



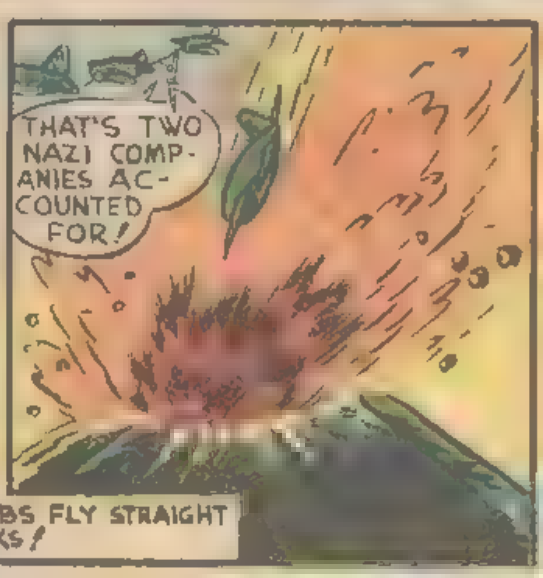


HE TIES THE BOMBS TO THE TAIL OF A GIANT PLANE!
AND THEY WERE GOING TO DROP THESE THINGS ON INNOCENT WOMEN AND CHILDREN— WHAT RATS!




TO HIS SURPRISE, BOYLE SEES BATTALION A TRAPPED IN A VALLEY, WHILE THREE NAZI COMPANIES HAMMER AWAY AT THEM!

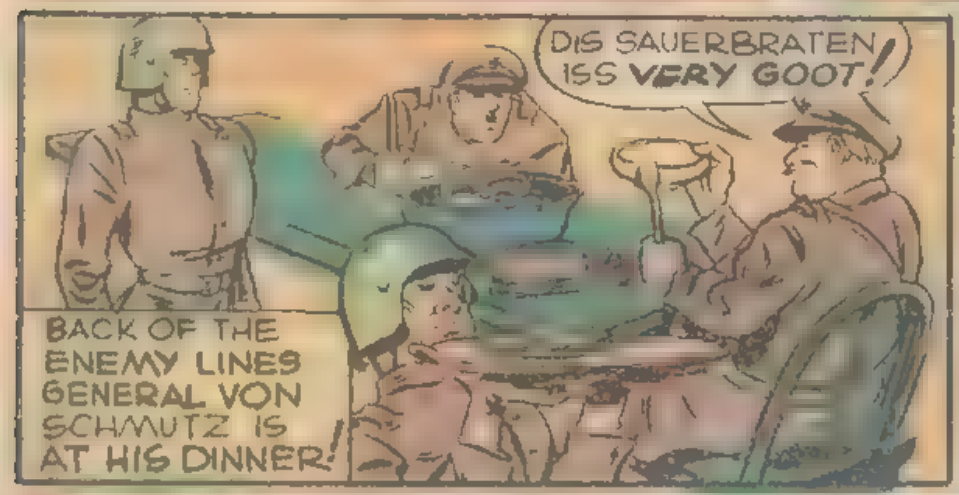


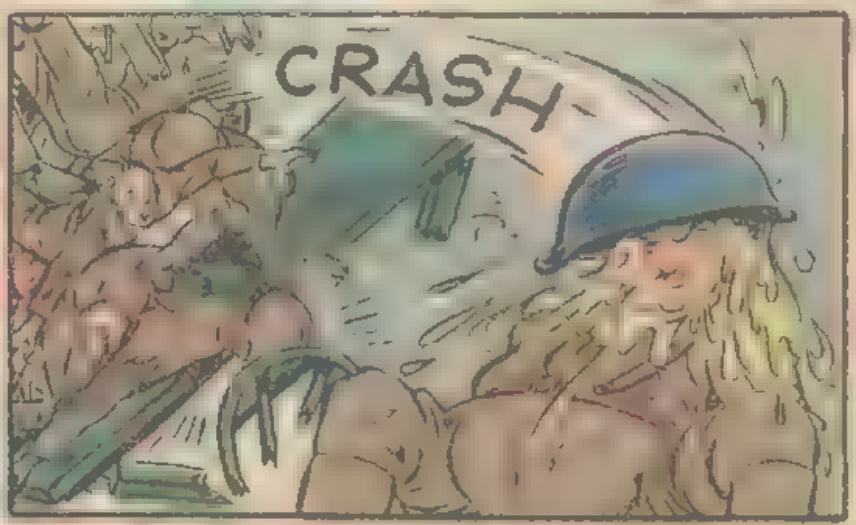
AFTER SETTING THE AUTOMATIC PILOT, BOYLE CLIMBS OUT ALONG THE ROPE TO THE LAST OF THE GLIDER BOMBS!

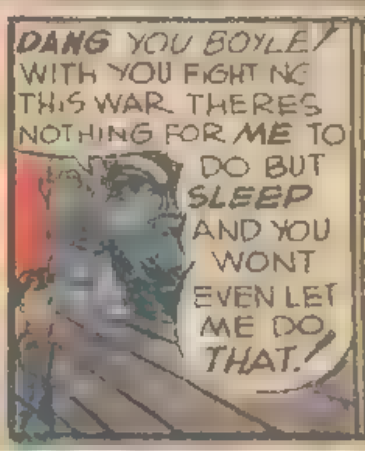



THE GLIDER BOMBS FLY STRAIGHT TO THEIR MARKS!

WHEW! THAT ONE WAS TOO CLOSE!
TOO BAD— MISSED HALF OF THEM WITH THAT LAST BOMB!
WITH THE SIEGE ON BATTALION A RELIEVED, BOYLE RETURNS FOR HIS SQUAD!
DONT SHOOT, ITS ME BOYLE!! H'YA BOYS!
SO YOU SEE, THE JOB IS NOT FINISHED-NOW I WANT BARBED WIRE AND LOTS OF IT. HURRY!
I HOPE THAT LOOP OF WIRE DOESNT CATCH ANYTHING BEFORE WE TAKE OFF.
IT'S THAT SPY SHIP AGAIN!
RAPID FIRE!
6
OOF
OUCH
ACH
THE BOMBER SWOOPS LOW AND..








ANOTHER RIOTOUS RIP ROARING ACTION PACKED

**SERGEANT BOYLE**

STORY IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

**PEP COMICS**

# The MIDSHIPMAN

LEE SAMPSON, A MIDSHIPMAN AT THE U.S NAVAL ACADEMY TYPIFIES THE AMERICAN IDEAL OF PATRIOTISM AND INTELLIGENCE. HE SERVES HIS COUNTRY, AND IS EVER READY TO LAY DOWN HIS LIFE IN ITS SERVICE!

LEE SAMPSON, THE MIDSHIPMAN, HAS RECEIVED PERMISSION TO USE ONE OF THE NAVY BOATS FOR THE AFTERNOON!

AH! THIS IS A GREAT IDEA OF MINE, COMING OUT HERE TO STUDY FOR EXAMS. NOBODY TO BOTHER ME!

LEE'S NOTIONS OF PEACE ARE RUDELY SHATTERED!

AM I SEEING THINGS, OR IS THAT REALLY AN AIRPLANE?

AS LEE APPROACHES THE SCENE, HE SEES ANOTHER QUEER THING!

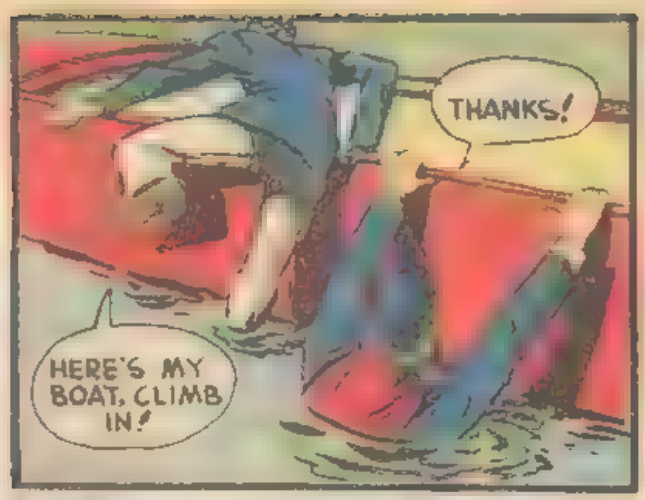
SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON. WHAT'S THAT BOAT LOWERING INTO THE WATER? I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!

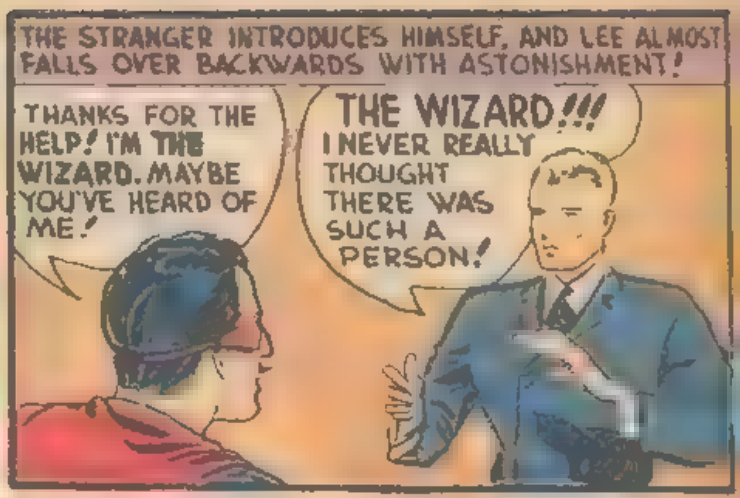
A REMARKABLE SIGHT GREETS THE MIDSHIPMAN'S EYES.

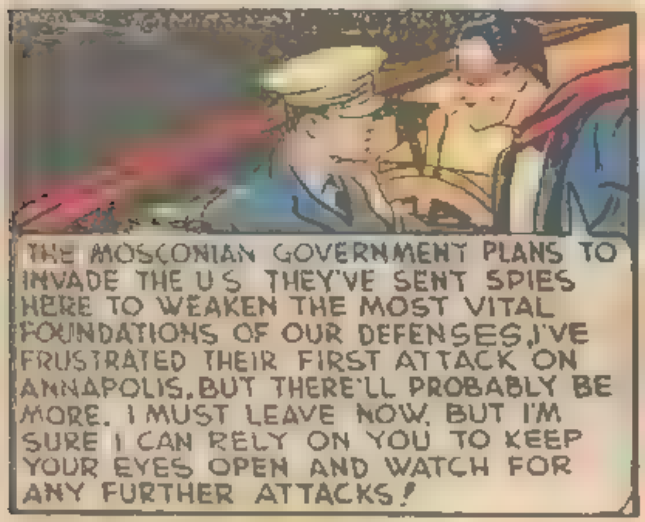
PHEW! THERE'S A STRONG TASTE OF CHLORINE! MAYBE THAT FELLOW WAS OVERCOME BY IT... ANYWAY HE NEEDS HELP!

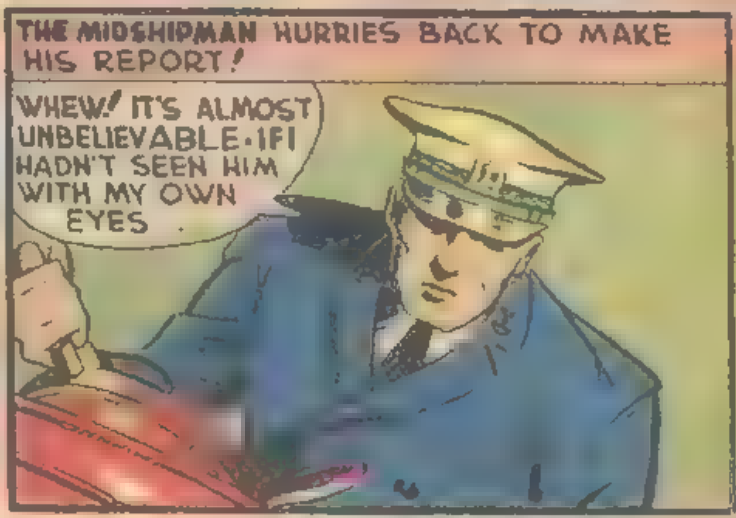
BUT THE UNKNOWN VICTIM [illegible] AND SWIMS TOWARD...

GUESS HE'S OKAY! ANYWAY, I'LL LEAD HIM TO MY BOAT!


THANKS!
HERE'S MY BOAT, CLIMB IN!


THE STRANGER INTRODUCES HIMSELF, AND LEE ALMOST FALLS OVER BACKWARDS WITH ASTONISHMENT!
THANKS FOR THE HELP! I'M THE WIZARD. MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF ME!
THE WIZARD!!! I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT THERE WAS SUCH A PERSON!

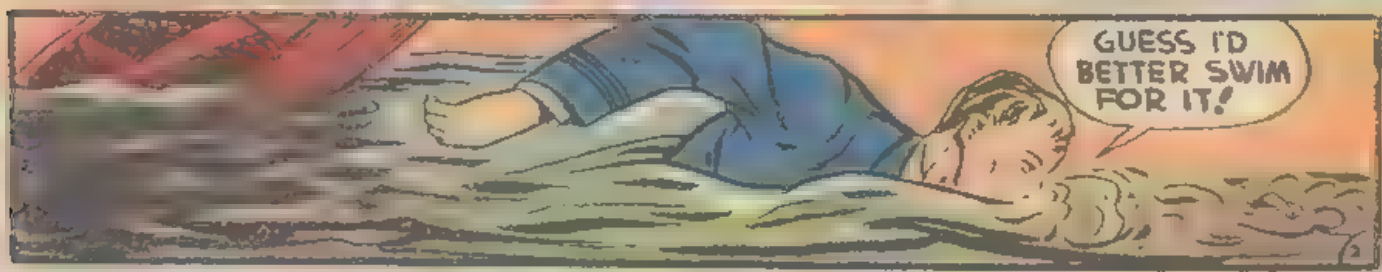

THE MOSCONIAN GOVERNMENT PLANS TO INVADE THE U.S. THEY'VE SENT SPIES HERE TO WEAKEN THE MOST VITAL FOUNDATIONS OF OUR DEFENSES. I'VE FRUSTRATED THEIR FIRST ATTACK ON ANNAPOLIS. BUT THERE'LL PROBABLY BE MORE. I MUST LEAVE NOW, BUT I'M SURE I CAN RELY ON YOU TO KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND WATCH FOR ANY FURTHER ATTACKS!


THE MIDSHIPMAN HURRIES BACK TO MAKE HIS REPORT!
WHEW! IT'S ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE - IF I HADN'T SEEN HIM WITH MY OWN EYES

ON BOARD THE MOSCONIAN SHIP FURTHER DOWN THE RIVER!
DE VIZARD HAS GONE. VE MUSTN'T LET THAT MIDSHIPMAN VARN THE ADMIRAL.
DON'T WORRY, I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT!

THE MOSCONIANS SEND A MOTOR BOAT IN QUICK PURSUIT!
THEY'RE COMING UP FAST. IF I CAN ONLY MAKE SHORE

THE LARGER MOSCONIAN MOTOR BOAT SENDS ITS PROW SPLINTERING THROUGH THE MIDSHIPMAN'S CRAFT!


GUESS I'D BETTER SWIM FOR IT!

KEEP FIRING. VE MUST MAKE SURE!
THE MOSCONIANS OPEN FIRE!
THE MIDSHIPMAN SINKS!
H...HELP!
BUT LEE IS FAR FROM FINISHED!
I HOPE THEY FELL FOR IT!
THEY WON'T THINK OF LOOKING FOR ME ON THE PROW OF THEIR OWN BOAT, I'LL JUST HOLD ON FOR AWHILE!
UNAWARE THAT THE MIDSHIPMAN IS WITHIN HEARING DISTANCE, THE SPIES DIVULGE THEIR PLOT!
VE HAFF A BOMBING PLANE VAITING FOR THE SIGNAL VEN ALL THE NAVAL OFFICERS ARE ROUNDED UP BY OUR AGENTS IN VUN HOUSE, VE STRIKE!
GREAT GHOSTS! THEY'RE PLANNING TO KILL OFF THE ENTIRE NAVAL STAFF!
LEE SAMPSON SPRINGS A SURPRISE!
IT...IT ISS A GHOST!
HERE'S ONE GHOST WITH A GOOD LEFT HOOK!

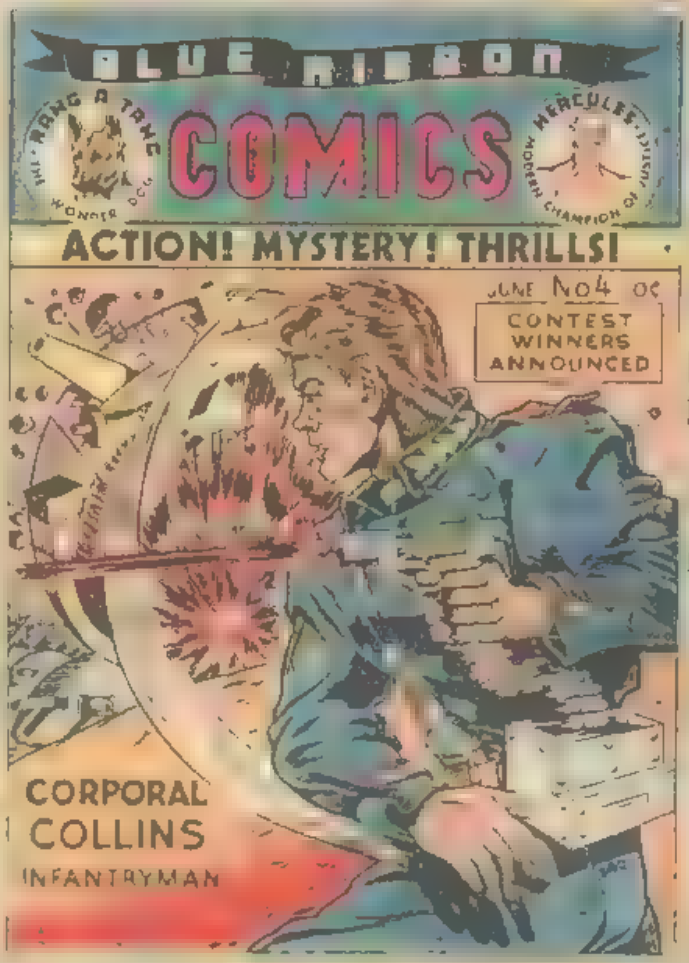
NOW YOU TRY THE WATER!
AS A MOSCONIAN SWINGS A PLANK, LEE DUCKS, AND THE MOSCONIAN CROWNS A COMRADE!
D DON'T HIT ME AGAIN!
I T'INK I TAKE A SVIM!
HMM.. UNUSUALLY QUIET HERE TONIGHT!
SUDDENLY—
QUVICK, INTO THE BUILDING!
HA! EVERY THING VORKS PERFECT!

MIDSHIPMAN SAMPSON MAKES A BEELINE FOR THE ADMIRAL'S HOUSE.
H HE'S GONE!
THE ADMIRAL IS FORCED TO CARRY OUT THE PLOTTERS' ORDERS!
YOU VILL CALL UP EACH OF YOUR NAVAL STAFF UND ASK DEM TO COME HERE IMMEDI-ATELY!
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT YOUR PLAN!
LIEUTENANT GREEVES RECEIVES A STRANGE ORDER!
YES, ADMIRAL, I'LL BE THERE RIGHT AWAY!
THE ADMIRAL THEN CALLS THE HOME OF THE REAR ADMIRAL HE'S OUT BUTBY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE, LEE SAMPSON, SEEKING SOMEONE TO REPORT HIS STORY TO, IS THERE AT THE MOMENT THE PHONE RINGS — THE ADMIRAL IS FORCED TO ORDER LEE TO REPORT ALSO — LEE OBEYS — HE RUSHES TO THE OFFICE OF THE ADMIRAL. WHERE
...HE FALLS INTO THE MOSCONIAN TRAP!
THE MOSCONIANS ARE ABOUT TO KILL THE AP-PARENTLY UNCONSCIOUS MIDSHIPMAN!
VE TAKE NO CHANCES VID DIS VUN. HE ISS TOO MUCH TROUBLE!
BUT THE MIDSHIPMAN SUDDENLY COMES TO LIFE!
LUCKY THING FOR ME THAT MY HEAD IS HARD!
COMB THIS ONE OUT OF YOUR HAIR!
GET OUT AND GET HELP MIDSHIPMAN SAMP-SON!

REALIZING THAT THE HALLS AND THE DOWNSTAIRS OF THE BUILDING ARE GUARDED, LEE DASHES OUT OF A WINDOW, AND CLIMBS HASTILY TO THE ROOF!
VERE IS HE?
GOOD— BEFORE THEY THINK OF LOOKING UPWARD, I'LL BE ON THE ROOF!
GOSH! LOOKS LIKE I STUMBLED ACROSS SOMETH'NG IMPORTANT!
VEN OUR BOMBING PLANES SEE THIS ROCKET FLARE, THEY VILL KNOW VERE TO STRIKE!
BUT MIDSHIPMAN SAMPSON IS TOO LATE TO PREVENT THE MOSCONIAN FROM SENDING THE SIGNAL!
LEE HAS A PLAN, BUT IT REQUIRES A DESPERATE CHANCE!
IF I CAN ONLY REACH THAT TREE I CAN GET TO A FIELD LIGHT, AND.
THE MOSCONIAN BOMBER HEADS FOR THE HOUSE FROM WHICH THE FLARE CAME!
AH! DE SIGNAL UND NOW VE DIVE TO VIPE OUT DE ENTIRE NAVAL STAFF!
I CAN'T SEE!
BUT AS THE MOSCONIANS SPEED DOWNWARD, THEY ARE BLINDED BY A HIGH POWERED SEARCHLIGHT!
THIS LIGHT WILL HOLD THEM UNTIL ALL THE OFFICERS CAN GET OUT OF THE BUILDING!
LEE'S STRATEGY IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN EVEN HE HAD ANTICIPATED BEFORE THE BLINDED PILOT CAN LEVEL OFF HE CRASHES INTO A RADIO TOWER!
THE NEXT DAY—
YOU HAVE SAVED THE NAVAL ACADEMY FROM COMPLETE DESTRUCTION. THE NAVY NEEDS MORE MEN LIKE YOU!
THANK YOU, SIR. ANY OTHER NAVY MAN WOULD HAVE DONE EXACTLY THE SAME THING!
MORE ADVENTURES OF LEE SAMPSON, THE MIDSHIPMAN IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF—
PEP COMICS

# BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER BEFORE!

JUNE ISSUE NO. 4 ON SALE APRIL 10TH




WATCH FOR THE RANG-A-TANG CLUB AND THE RANG-A-TANG HONOR LEGION! CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

**RANG-A-TANG, THE WONDER DOG** BRINGS TO THE PAGES OF BLUE RIBBON COMICS, THE COURAGE AND DARING, THAT MADE RIN-TIN-TIN THE MOVIES MOST FAMOUS CHARACTER---- **RANG'S** SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE, HIS UNERRING SENSE OF SMELL AND HEARING TOGETHER WITH HIS KEEN EYESIGHT, MAKE HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS EQUAL EVEN TO THOSE OF MEN WHOSE EFFORTS IN THE DEFENCE OF LAW AND ORDER ARE WRITTEN IN THE MOST THRILLING PAGES OF HISTORY

## • SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT •

HERE ARE THE NEW EXCITING CHARACTERS IN THE NO.4 BLUE RIBBON COMICS

HERCULES — MODERN CHAMPION OF JUSTICE! THE GREEK GOD OF STRENGTH COMES TO LIFE TO BATTLE TODAYS FORCES OF EVIL —

CORPORAL COLLINS - INFANTRYMAN! TY GOR — SON OF THE TIGER! GYPSY JOHNSON — ADVENTURER! LOOP LOGAN — AIR ACE! DOC STRONG — AND THE ISLE OF RIGHT! THE FOX — DETECTIVE! THE GREEN FALCON — KNIGHT AND CRUSADER!

DON'T FAIL TO GET YOUR COPY OF THE JUNE ISSUE NO.4 BLUE RIBBON COMICS! ON SALE AT ALL NEWSSTANDS ABOUT APRIL 10TH

# THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

Jim Streeter

ONE DAY A HUGE ROCKET SHIP CRASHED WITHIN THE BARRIERS OF THE DIAMOND EMPIRE... AFTER DEFEATING PLOTTERS AGAINST THE CROWN, THE PILOT, KNOWN AS THE ROCKET, BECOMES THE FRIEND OF THE EMPIRE'S LOVELY QUEEN.. IN THE LAST EPISODE WE LEFT THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN FLYING IN A DISABLED SHIP OVER A STRANGE AND DESOLATE LAND...

CITY OF THE HAWKMEN

FLYING LOW OVER THE WASTE-LAND THEY SIGHT A ONESIDED BATTLE!

LOOK! ALL OF THEM ARE FIGHTING AGAINST ONE MAN!

IT'S THE LIZARD-MEN, AND THE MAN THEY'RE FIGHTING IS A HAWKMAN! QUICK ROCKET--WE MUST GO TO THE RESCUE!

WITH FLARES BLASTING, THE ROCKET DIVES AT THE LIZARD-MEN WHO FLEE IN PANIC!

BUT THE DIVE WAS TOO STEEP FOR THE DISABLED SHIP--THEY CRASH TO A LANDING!

CRASH

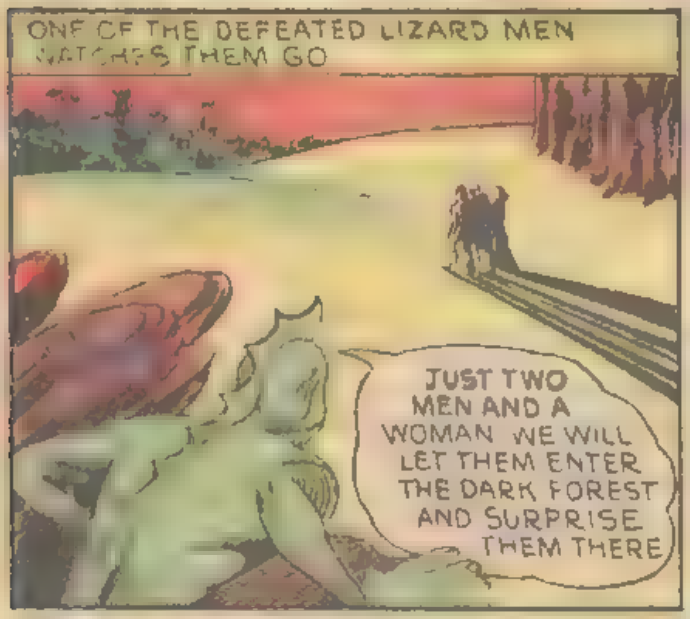
WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION, THE ROCKET HURRIES TO THE AID OF THE LONE SURVIVOR!

GOSH HE'S A MIGHTY FIGHTER .. LOOK AT ALL THOSE DEAD SOL-DIERS AROUND HIM!

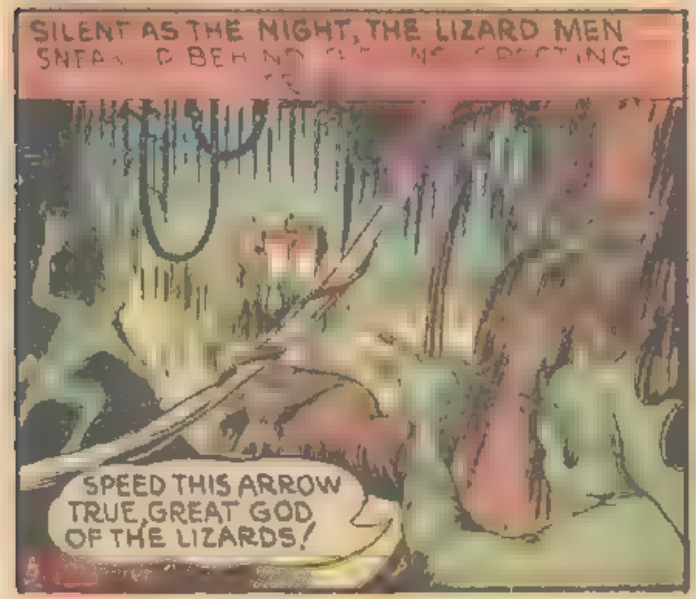
THANK YOU WARRIOR I'M PRINCE FALKAR OF THE KING-DOM OF HAWK-MEN!
I AM KNOWN AS THE ROCKET I SERVE THE QUEEN OF THE EMPIRE OF DIAMONDS

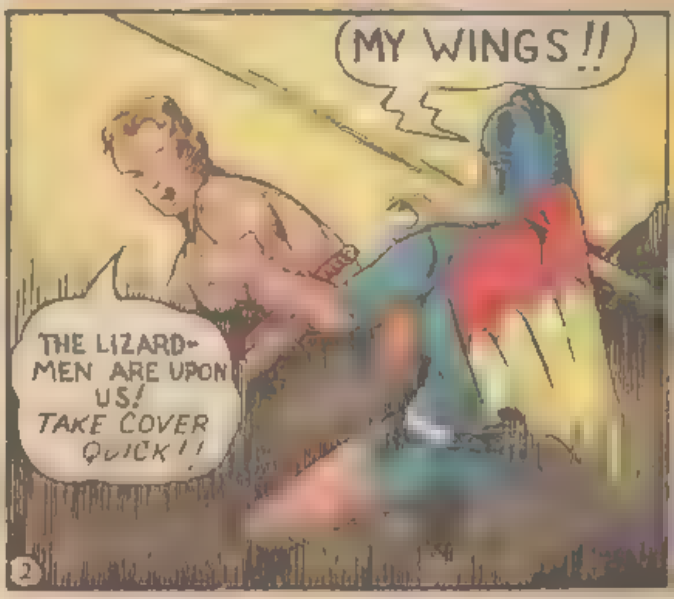
RETURNING TO THE SHIP, THEY EXAMINE THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE CRASH.
WE'LL NEED TOOLS AND MEN TO FIX THIS LANDING GEAR

COME WITH ME TO MY COUNTRY - I WILL SEND BACK ALL THE AID YOU NEED
THEY SET OUT FOR THE LAND OF THE HAWKMEN--

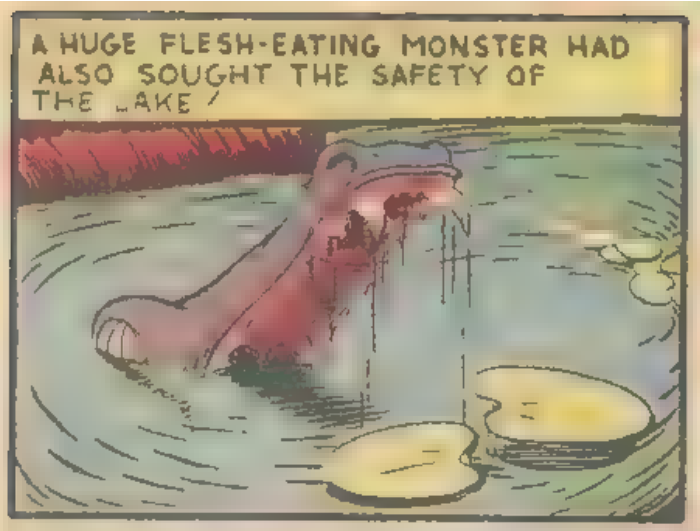

ONE OF THE DEFEATED LIZARD MEN WATCHES THEM GO
JUST TWO MEN AND A WOMAN WE WILL LET THEM ENTER THE DARK FOREST AND SURPRISE THEM THERE

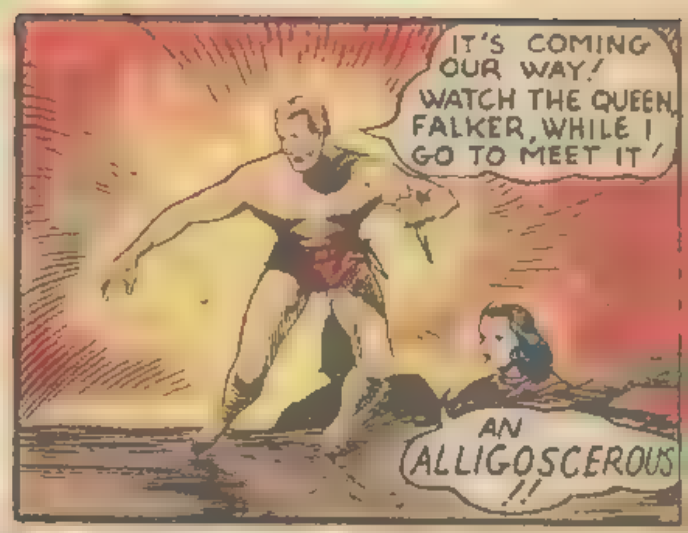
ROCKET AND
THE WOMEN ENTER THE DARK FOREST
IN THE DIRECTION OF HIS KINGDOM!

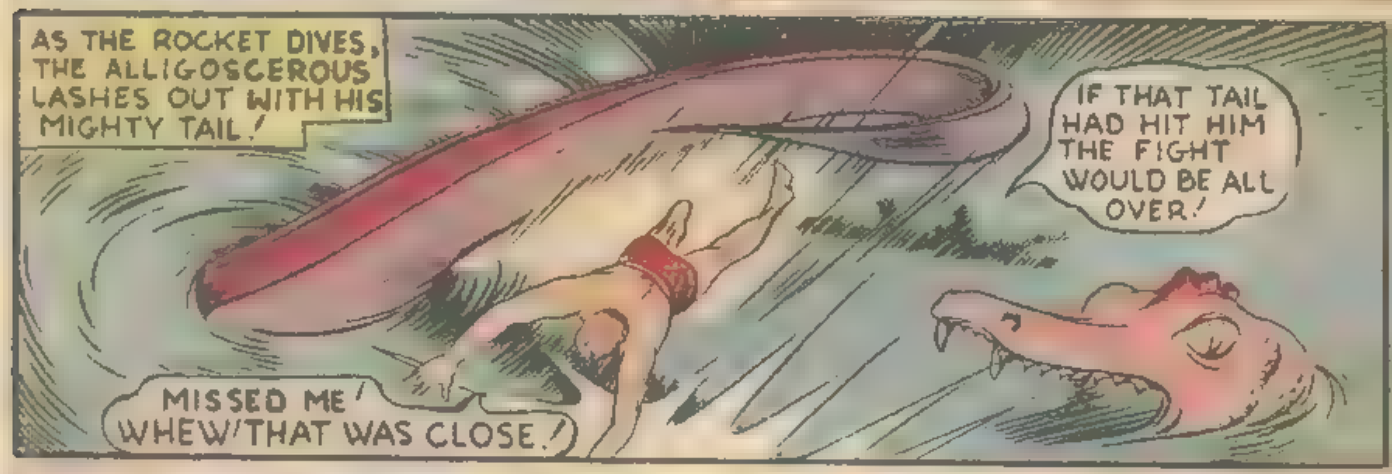

SILENT AS THE NIGHT, THE LIZARD MEN
SPEED THIS ARROW TRUE, GREAT GOD OF THE LIZARDS!

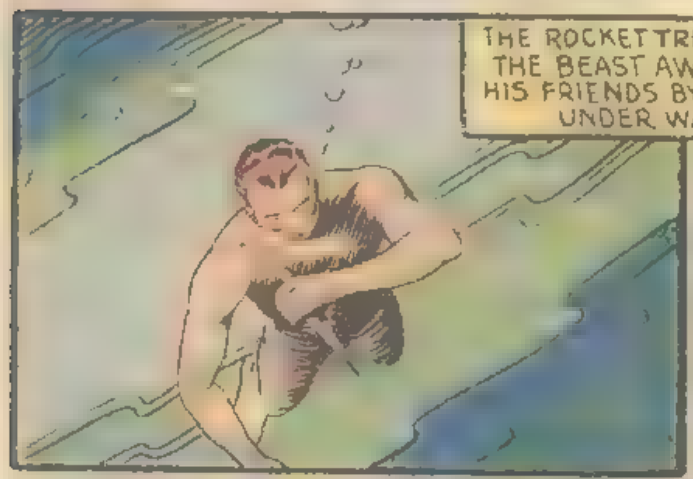

MY WINGS!!
THE LIZARD-MEN ARE UPON US! TAKE COVER QUICK!!
2

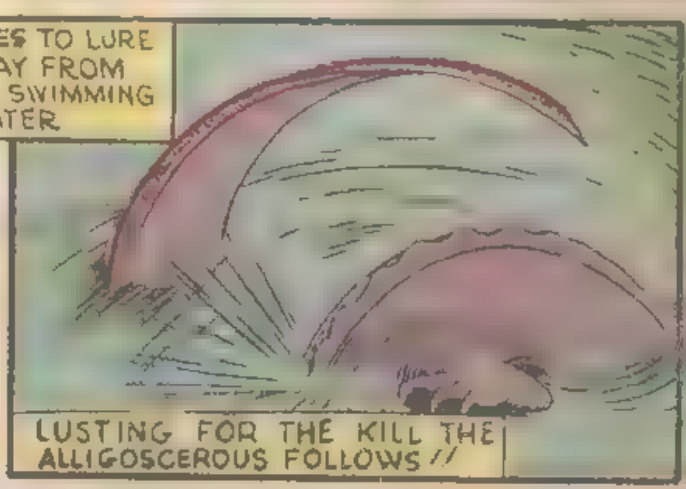
A BARRAGE OF ARROWS FLY PAST!
WE'LL BE SAFE BEHIND THESE ROCKS!
THEY WONT DARE COME ANY CLOSER, FOR THEY ARE COWARDLY FIGHTERS!
IF WE WAIT UNTIL NIGHT FALL, WE'LL BE ABLE TO SLIP THROUGH THEM IN THE DARKNESS
TOO BAD THAT ARROW INJURED MY WINGS, I'D BE ABLE TO FLY FOR AID.
BUT THE LIZARD-MEN HAVE NO INTENTIONS OF WAITING FOR DARKNESS!
FIRE WILL DRIVE THEM INTO THE OPEN
GOOD! THEN OUR ARCHERS CAN PICK THEM OFF
RUN, AND STAY LOW! THEY CAN'T SEE US BECAUSE OF THE SMOKE SCREEN THEY CREATED
THE ROCKET AND HIS FRIENDS FLEE FROM THE PATH OF THE FLAMING INFERNO.
BUT THE ROCKET NOTICES THAT THE ANIMALS ARE RUNNING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.
WE'RE TRAPPED, THERE'S FIRE AHEAD.
THE ANIMALS KNOW OF WATER! FOLLOW THEM AND WE'LL BE SAFE!
RACING MADLY IN THE PATH OF THE
UNLESS THE LIZARD MEN DISCOVER US WE'LL BE SAFE UNTIL THE FIRE DIES DOWN!
3

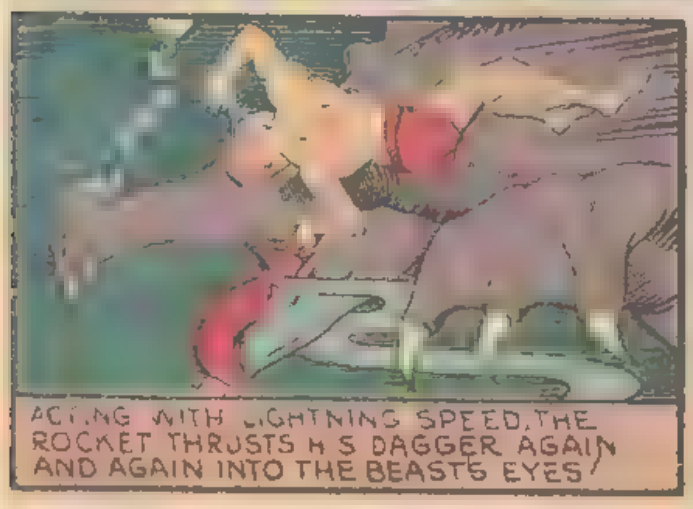

A HUGE FLESH-EATING MONSTER HAD ALSO SOUGHT THE SAFETY OF THE LAKE!

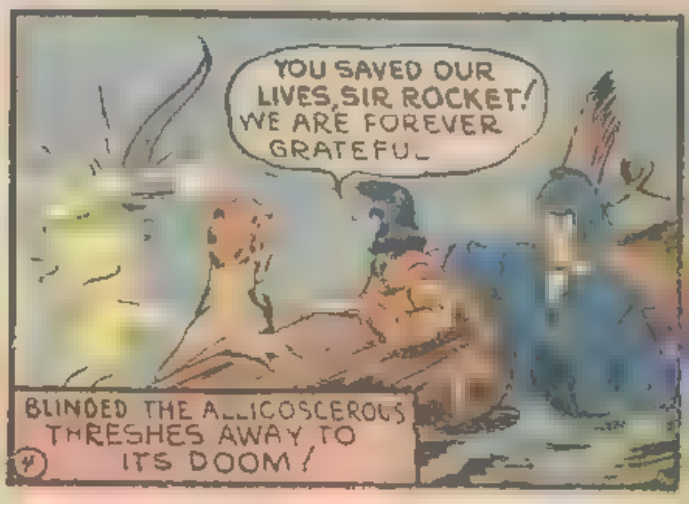

IT'S COMING OUR WAY! WATCH THE QUEEN, FALKER, WHILE I GO TO MEET IT!
AN ALLIGOSCEROUS!!


AS THE ROCKET DIVES, THE ALLIGOSCEROUS LASHES OUT WITH HIS MIGHTY TAIL!
IF THAT TAIL HAD HIT HIM THE FIGHT WOULD BE ALL OVER!
MISSED ME! WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

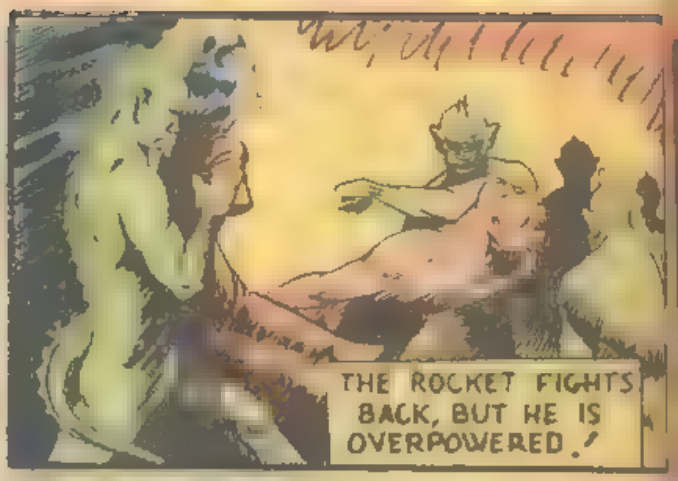

THE ROCKET TRIES TO LURE THE BEAST AWAY FROM HIS FRIENDS BY SWIMMING UNDER WATER

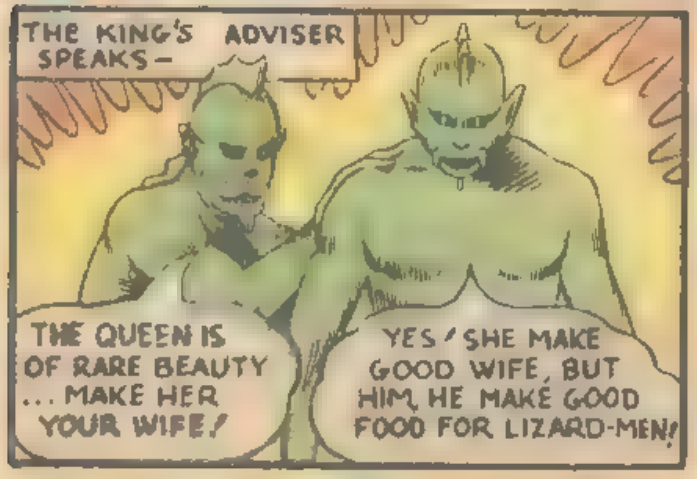

LUSTING FOR THE KILL THE ALLIGOSCEROUS FOLLOWS!!

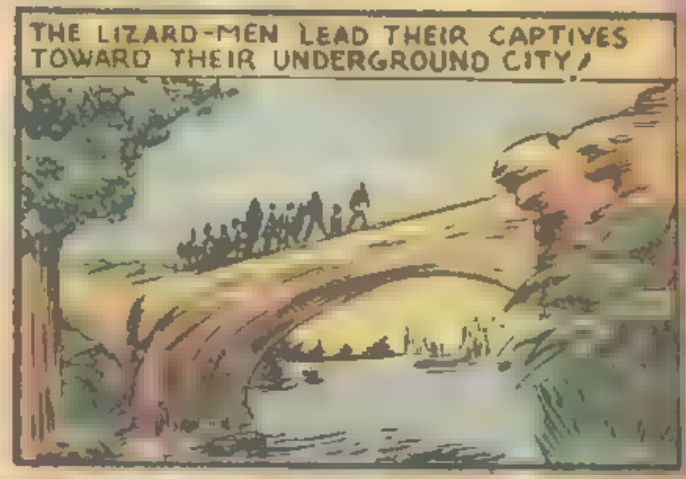

ACTING WITH LIGHTNING SPEED, THE ROCKET THRUSTS HIS DAGGER AGAIN AND AGAIN INTO THE BEASTS EYES!

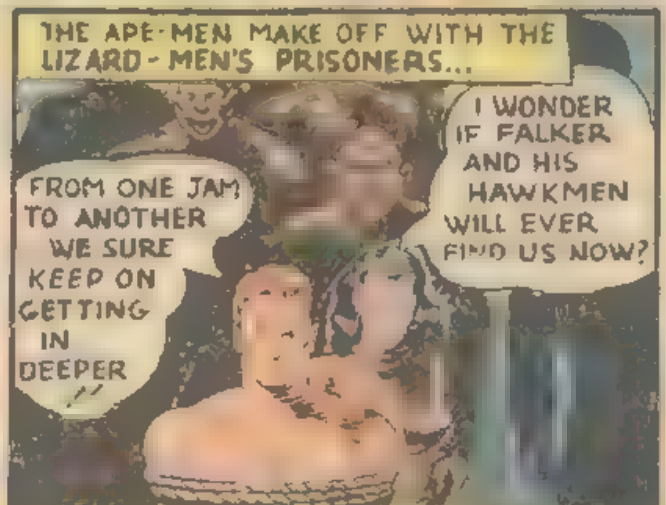

YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, SIR ROCKET! WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL
BLINDED THE ALLIGOSCEROUS THRESHES AWAY TO ITS DOOM!
47

SLOWLY THE FIRE DIES DOWN
THE WATER IS HEALING YOUR WING, FALKAR
GOOD, SOON I SHALL BE ABLE TO FLY AGAIN!
WITH THE DARK FOREST A MASS OF SMOULDERING ASHES, THEY MAKE THEIR WAY, ONCE MORE, TOWARD THE HAWK-KINGDOM!
A FEW HOURS LATER
MY WINGS ARE FULLY HEALED NOW - I'LL FLY TO MY LAND AND BRING BACK MY PEOPLE - KEEP WALKING IN THIS SAME DIRECTION
GOOD! WITH A FEW OF YOUR MEN BEHIND US, WE'LL TEACH THOSE LIZARD-MEN HOW BRAVE WARRIORS FIGHT!
AYE - YOU'RE A MAN I'LL BE PROUD TO HAVE FIGHT-ING AT MY SIDE!
THEY WALK ONWARD - - BUT THE LIZARD MEN HAVE SPREAD A HUGE CIRCLE, AND THEIR SCOUTS AGAIN SIGHT THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN!
THE SCOUTS POUND OUT A MESSAGE TO THEIR MAIN FORCES
FROM ALL THROUGH THE DARK FOREST THE LIZARD MEN GATHER FOR THE ATTACK!
DRUMS! WHAT DO THEY MEAN?
NOTHING, YOUR MAJESTY!!
THE ROCKET RECOGNIZES THE SIGNAL TO WAR, BUT HE DOES NOT WISH TO ALARM THE QUEEN.
6





THE KING'S ADVISER SPEAKS—
THE QUEEN IS OF RARE BEAUTY ... MAKE HER YOUR WIFE!
YES! SHE MAKE GOOD WIFE, BUT HIM, HE MAKE GOOD FOOD FOR LIZARD-MEN!

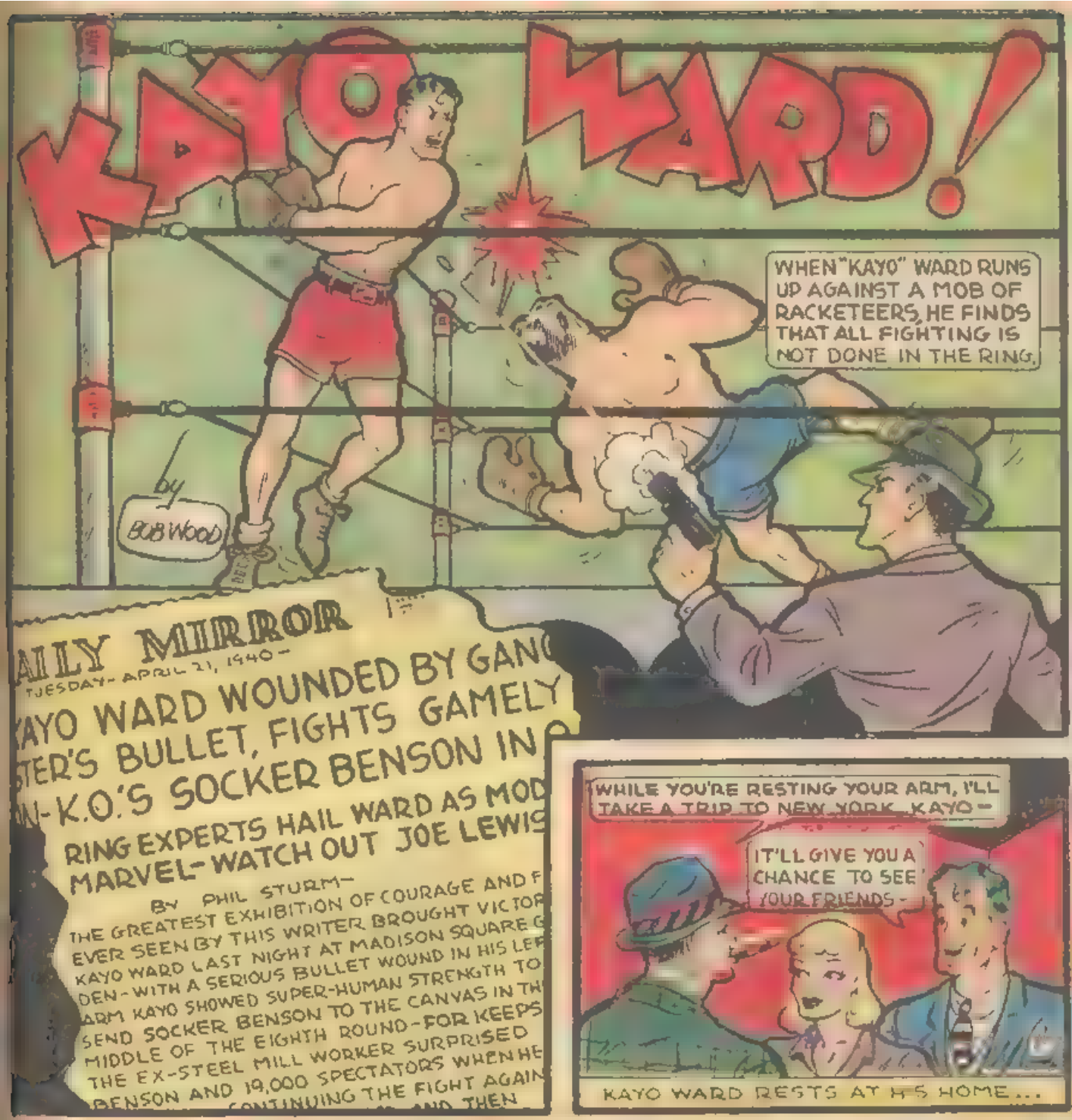



THE APE-MEN MAKE OFF WITH THE LIZARD-MEN'S PRISONERS...
FROM ONE JAM TO ANOTHER WE SURE KEEP ON GETTING IN DEEPER!!
I WONDER IF FALKER AND HIS HAWKMEN WILL EVER FIND US NOW?

WHAT FURTHER ADVENTURES AWAIT THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS?
READ THE NEXT ISSUE OF
PEP COMICS
FOR THEIR ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF THE APE-MEN!
6

TWO NEW FEATURES IN MAY TOP NOTCH COMICS - GALAHAD - KNIGHT AND CRUSADER SHANGHI SHERIDEN!

# KAYO WARD!




AILY MIRROR
TUESDAY- APRIL 21, 1940-

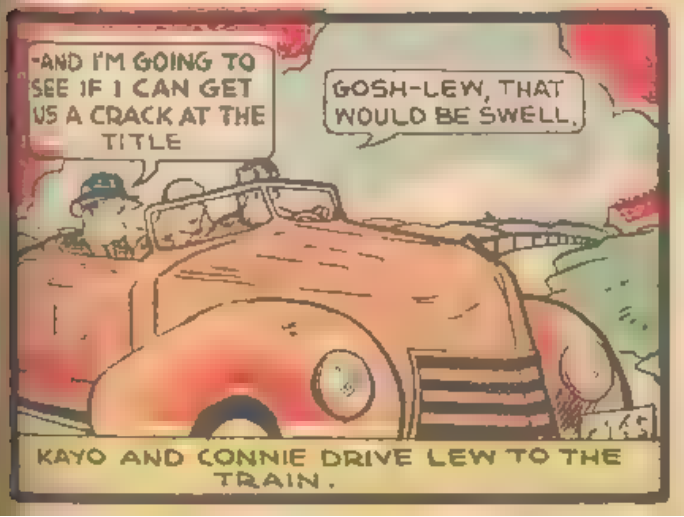
KAYO WARD WOUNDED BY GANG
STER'S BULLET, FIGHTS GAMELY
ON- K.O.'S SOCKER BENSON IN
RING EXPERTS HAIL WARD AS MOD
MARVEL- WATCH OUT JOE LEWIS

BY PHIL STURM-

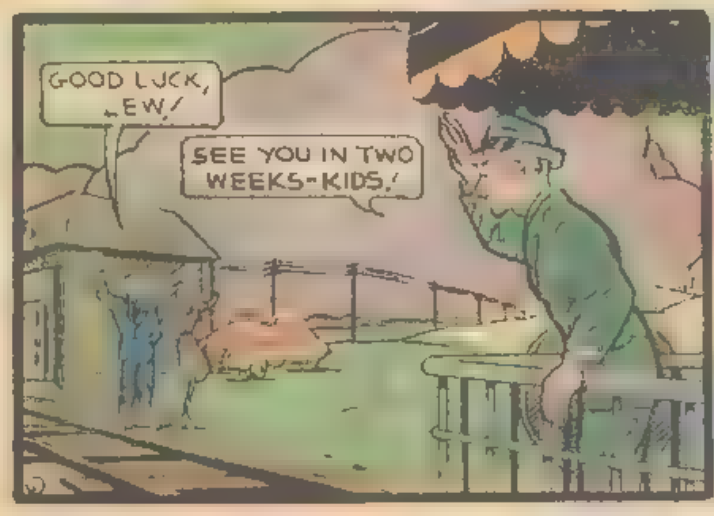
THE GREATEST EXHIBITION OF COURAGE AND F
EVER SEEN BY THIS WRITER BROUGHT VICTOR
KAYO WARD LAST NIGHT AT MADISON SQUARE G
DEN- WITH A SERIOUS BULLET WOUND IN HIS LEF
ARM KAYO SHOWED SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH TO
SEND SOCKER BENSON TO THE CANVAS IN TH
MIDDLE OF THE EIGHTH ROUND- FOR KEEPS
THE EX-STEEL MILL WORKER SURPRISED
BENSON AND 19,000 SPECTATORS WHEN HE
CONTINUING THE FIGHT AGAIN
AND THEN

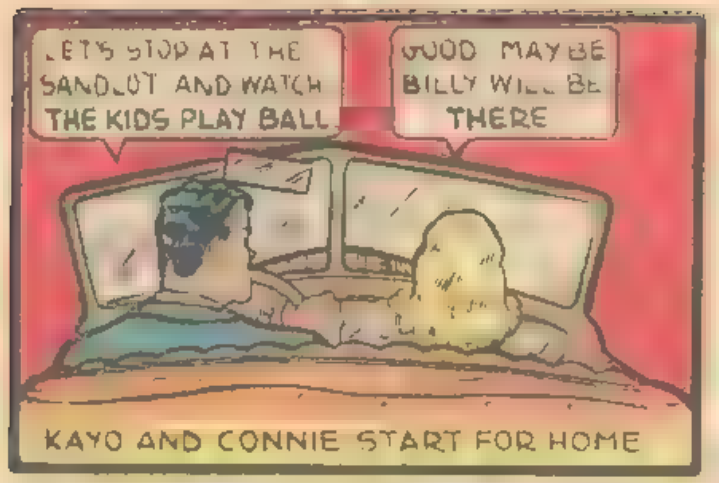


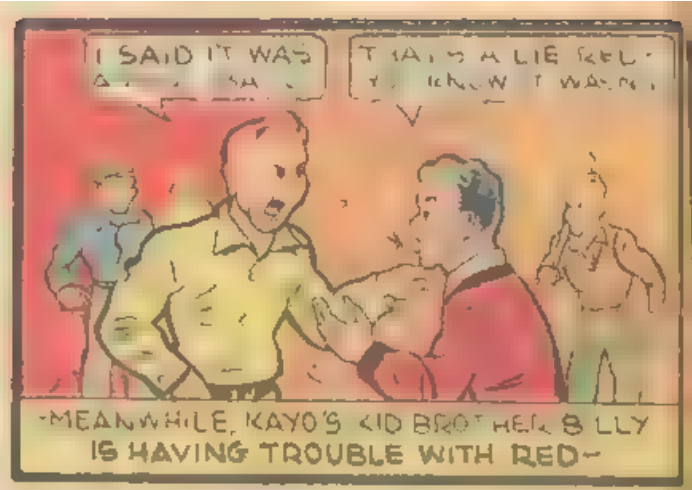

KAYO WARD RESTS AT HIS HOME...

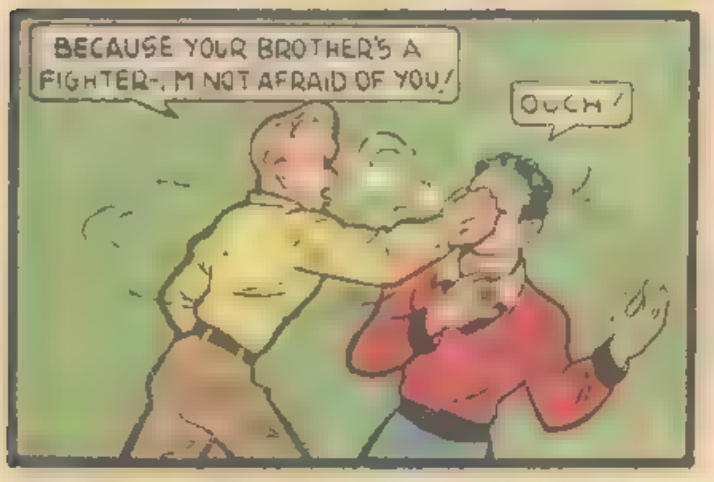


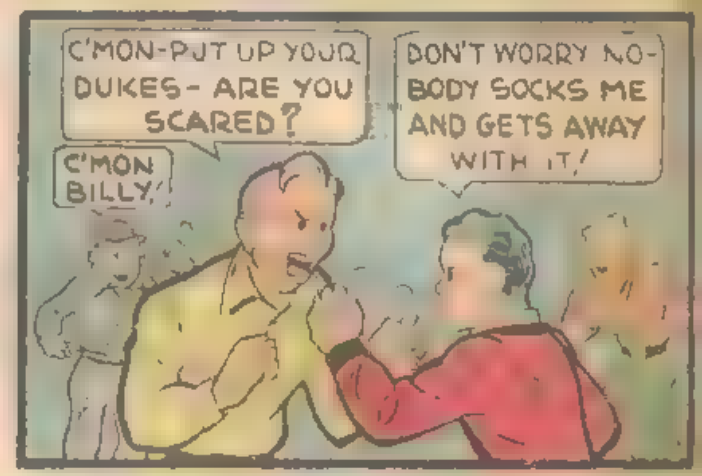

KAYO AND CONNIE DRIVE LEW TO THE TRAIN.

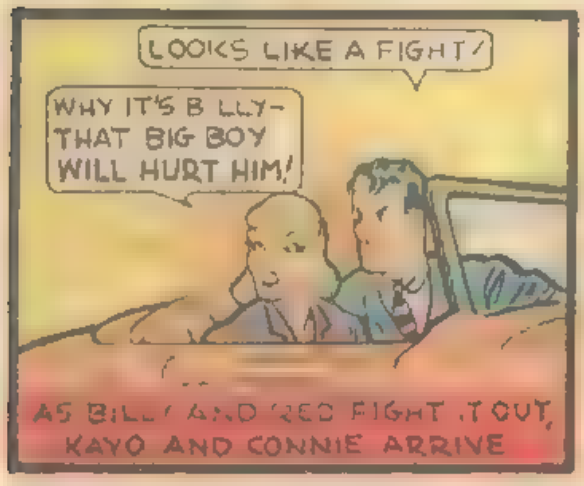



LET'S STOP AT THE SANDLOT AND WATCH THE KIDS PLAY BALL
GOOD MAYBE BILLY WILL BE THERE
KAYO AND CONNIE START FOR HOME

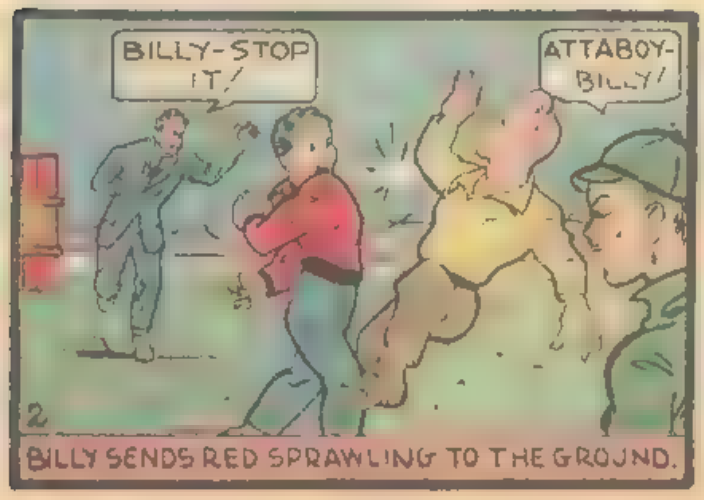

I SAID IT WAS
MEANWHILE, KAYO'S KID BROTHER BILLY IS HAVING TROUBLE WITH RED-

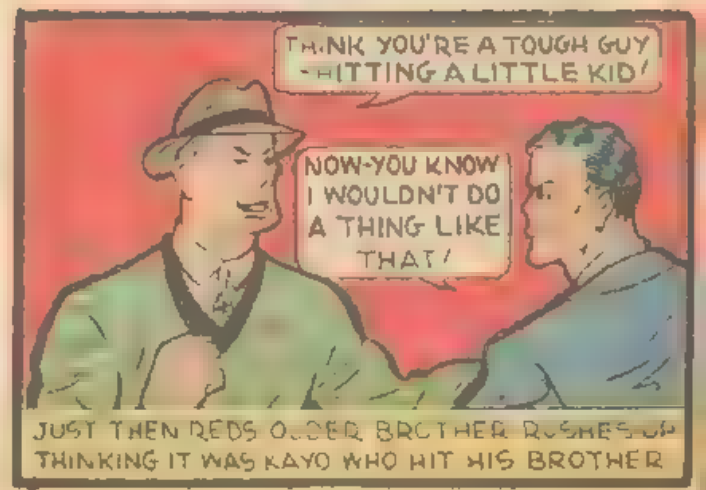

BECAUSE YOUR BROTHER'S A FIGHTER-, M NOT AFRAID OF YOU!
OUCH!


C'MON-PUT UP YOUR DUKES- ARE YOU SCARED?
C'MON BILLY!
DON'T WORRY NO-BODY SOCKS ME AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!

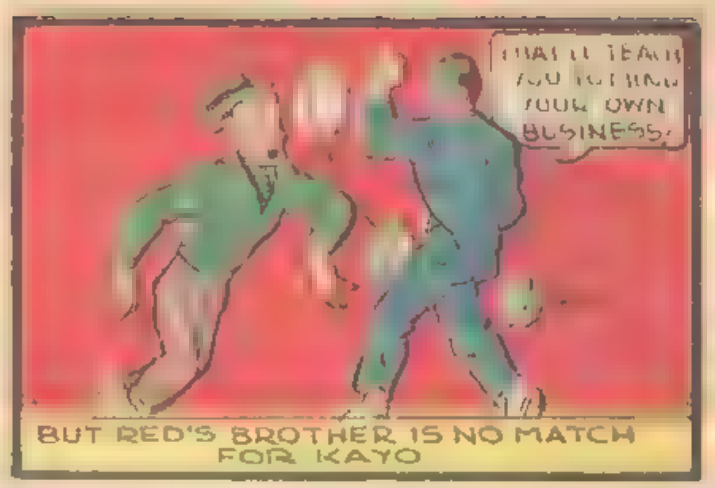

LOOKS LIKE A FIGHT!
WHY IT'S B LLY- THAT BIG BOY WILL HURT HIM!
AS BILLY AND RED FIGHT IT OUT, KAYO AND CONNIE ARRIVE

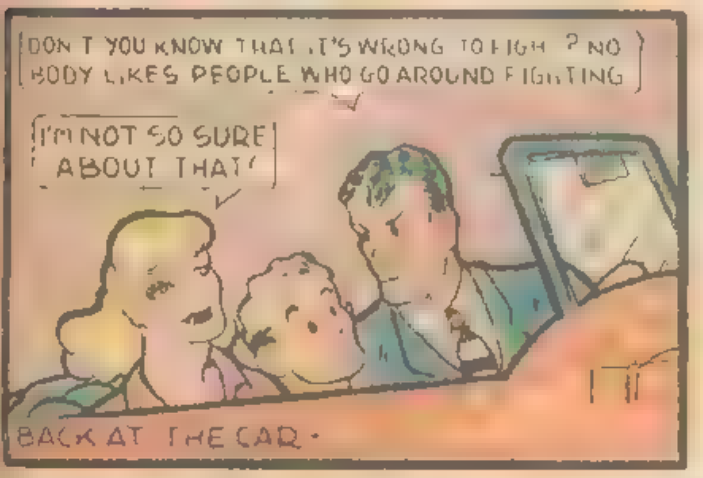
GOSH-I BETTER STOP THEM!


BILLY-STOP IT!
ATTABOY-BILLY!
2
BILLY SENDS RED SPRAWLING TO THE GROUND.

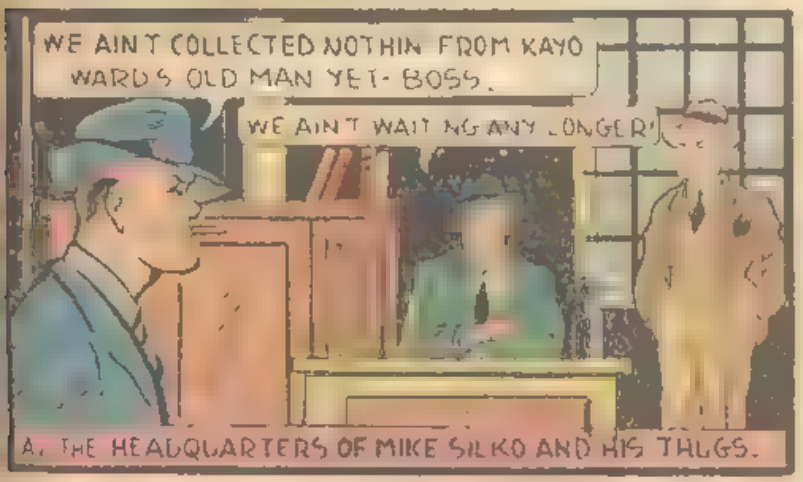

THINK YOU'RE A TOUGH GUY -HITTING A LITTLE KID!
NOW-YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T DO A THING LIKE THAT!
JUST THEN REDS OLDER BROTHER RUSHES UP THINKING IT WAS KAYO WHO HIT HIS BROTHER

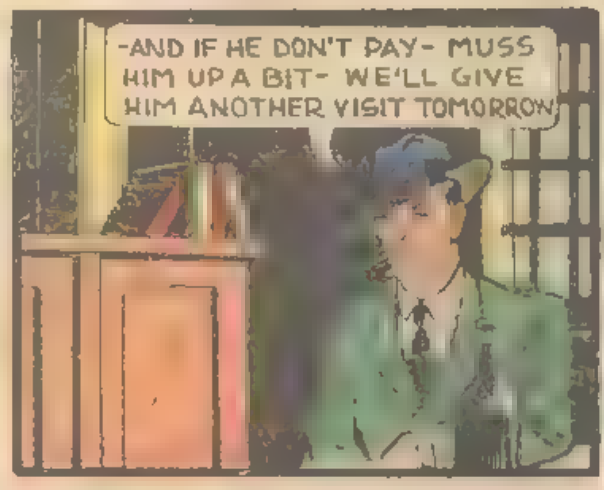
I'LL TEACH YOU TO HIT MY BROTHER!
OH YEAH!


I'LL TEACH YOU TO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
BUT RED'S BROTHER IS NO MATCH FOR KAYO

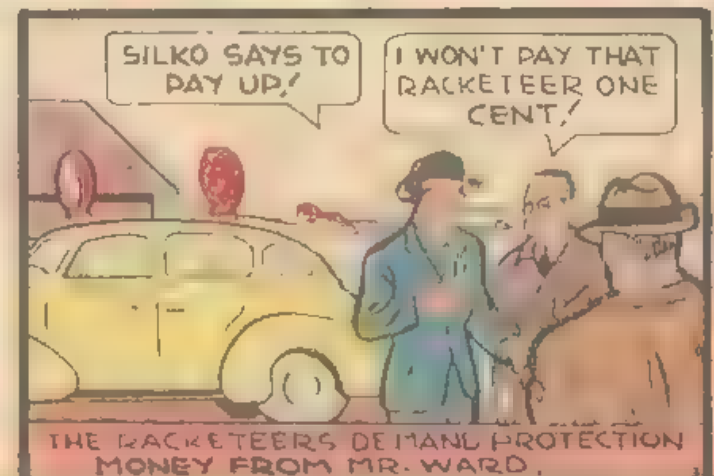

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT IT'S WRONG TO FIGHT? NOBODY LIKES PEOPLE WHO GO AROUND FIGHTING
I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT!
BACK AT THE CAR.

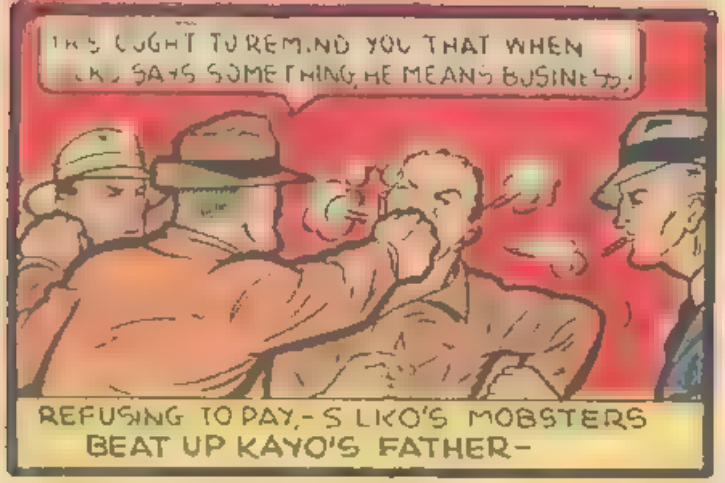
DID YOU SEE ME CLIP HIM? GOSH- I'M GOING TO BE A FIGHTER LIKE KAYO WHEN I GROW UP!

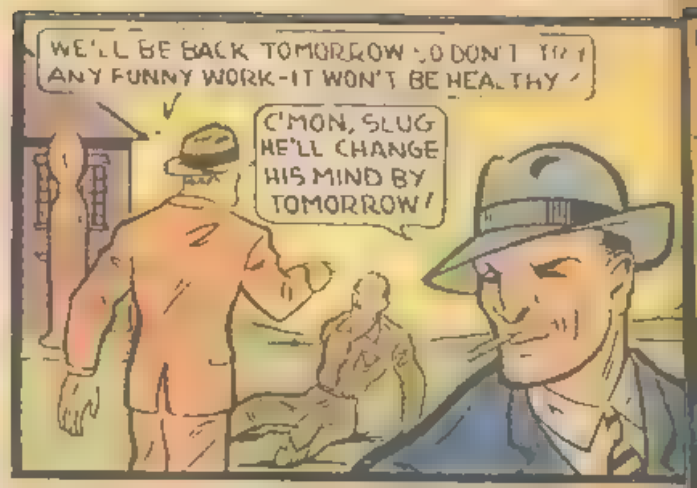

WE AIN'T COLLECTED NOTHIN FROM KAYO WARD'S OLD MAN YET- BOSS.
WE AIN'T WAITING ANY LONGER!
A. THE HEADQUARTERS OF MIKE SILKO AND HIS THUGS.

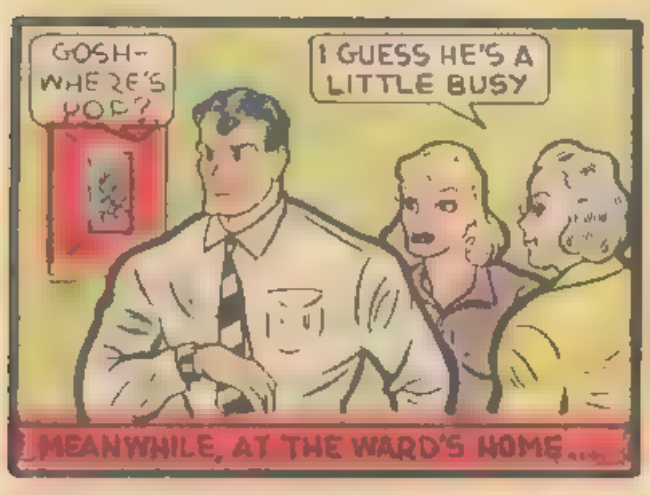

-AND IF HE DON'T PAY- MUSS HIM UP A BIT- WE'LL GIVE HIM ANOTHER VISIT TOMORROW

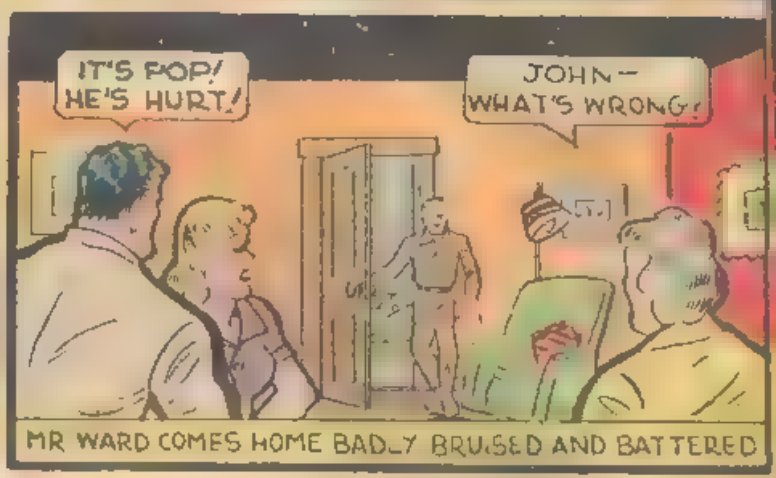
ANOTHER CUSTOMER.
WARD'S SERVICE STATION
3.
SILKO'S MEN PULL UP AT MR WARDS FILLING STATION.

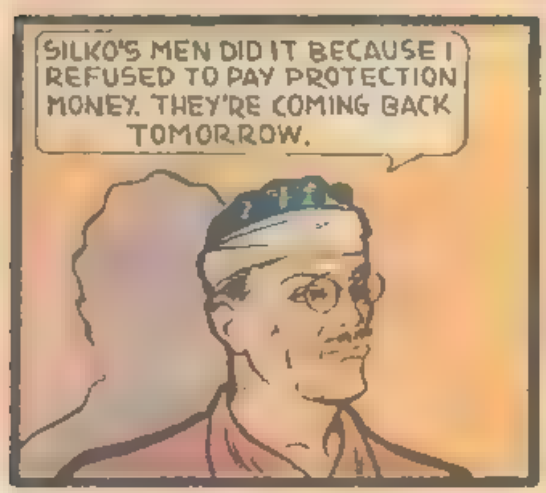

SILKO SAYS TO PAY UP!
I WON'T PAY THAT RACKETEER ONE CENT!
THE RACKETEERS DEMAND PROTECTION MONEY FROM MR. WARD.

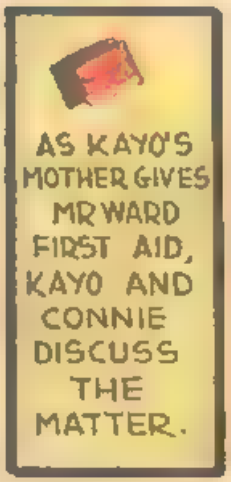

REFUSING TO PAY,- SILKO'S MOBSTERS BEAT UP KAYO'S FATHER-


WE'LL BE BACK TOMORROW - DON'T TRY ANY FUNNY WORK - IT WON'T BE HEALTHY!
C'MON, SLUG HE'LL CHANGE HIS MIND BY TOMORROW!

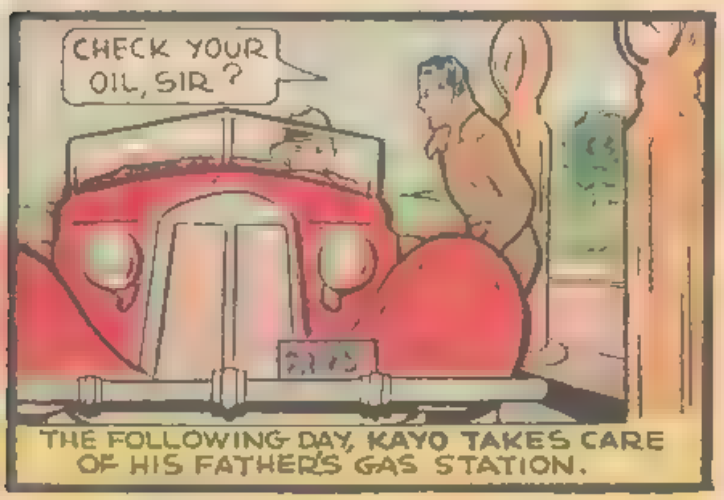

GOSH- WHERE'S POP?
I GUESS HE'S A LITTLE BUSY
MEANWHILE, AT THE WARD'S HOME....

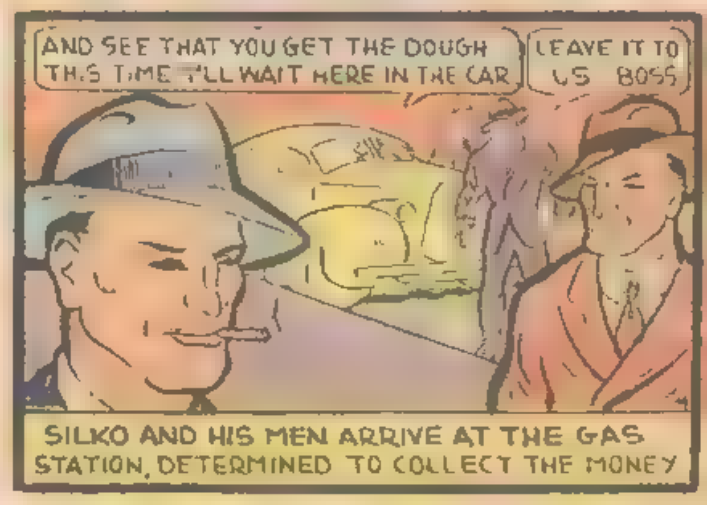

IT'S POP! HE'S HURT!
JOHN- WHAT'S WRONG?
MR WARD COMES HOME BADLY BRUISED AND BATTERED

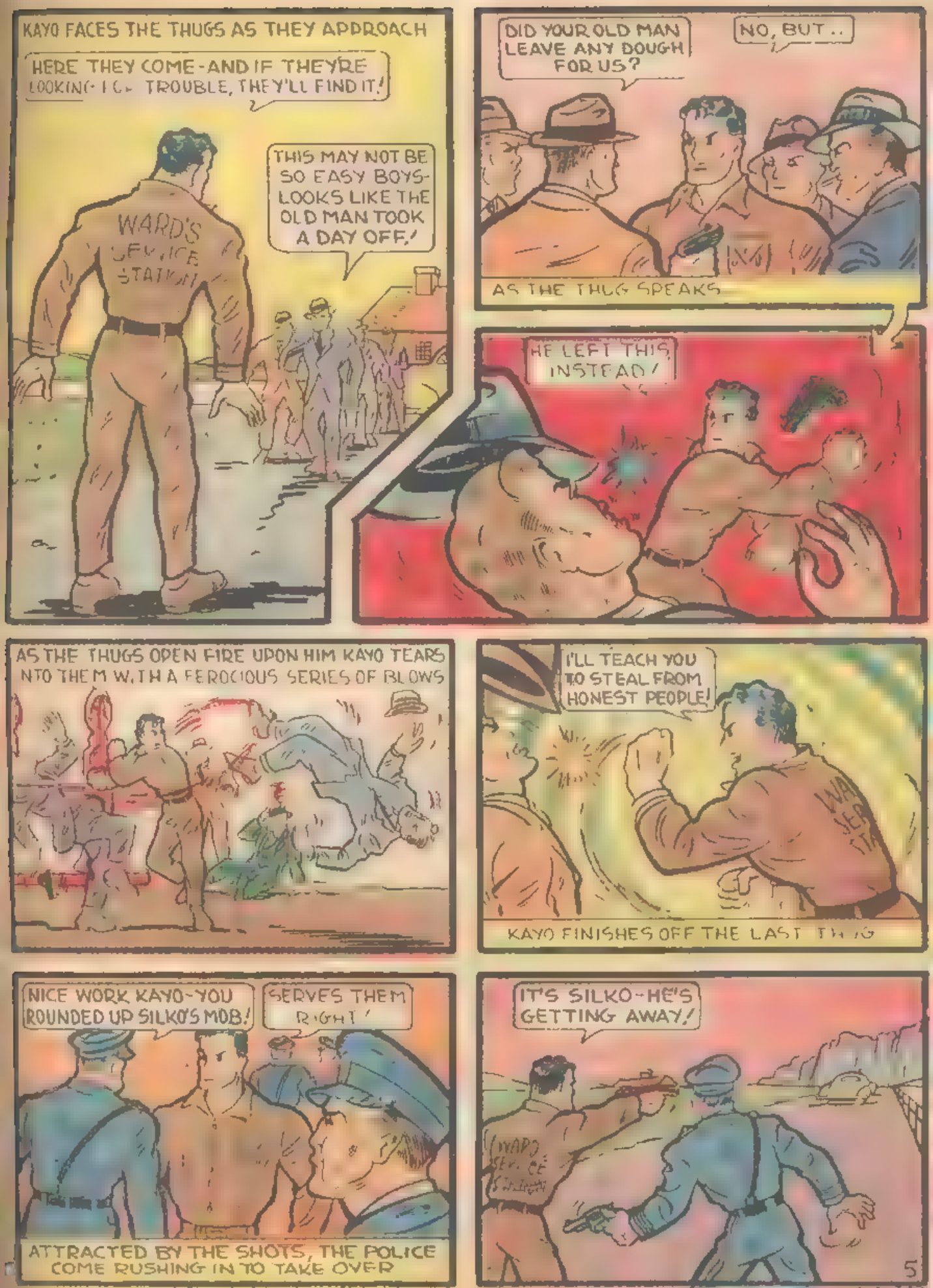

SILKO'S MEN DID IT BECAUSE I REFUSED TO PAY PROTECTION MONEY. THEY'RE COMING BACK TOMORROW.

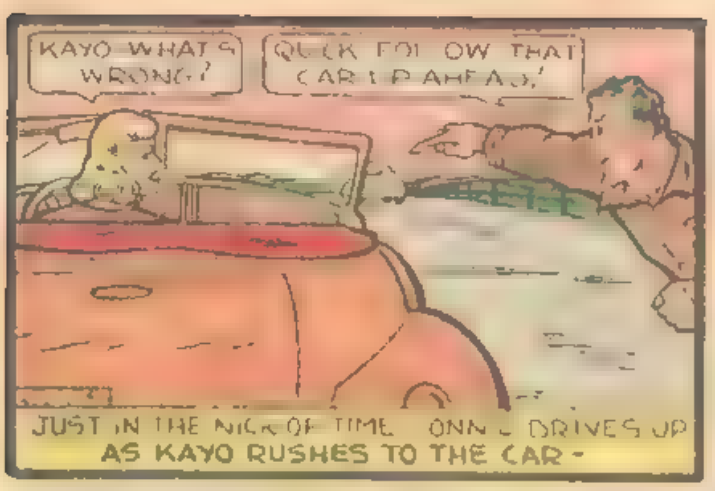

AS KAYO'S MOTHER GIVES MR WARD FIRST AID, KAYO AND CONNIE DISCUSS THE MATTER.

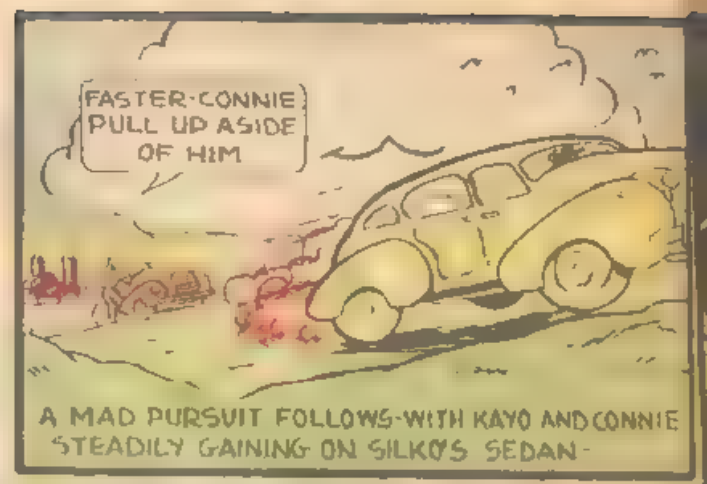
DON'T GO TO THE POLICE THOSE MEN WILL ONLY DO WORSE TO YOUR FATHER!
THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THIS MYSELF!


CHECK YOUR OIL, SIR?
THE FOLLOWING DAY, KAYO TAKES CARE OF HIS FATHER'S GAS STATION.

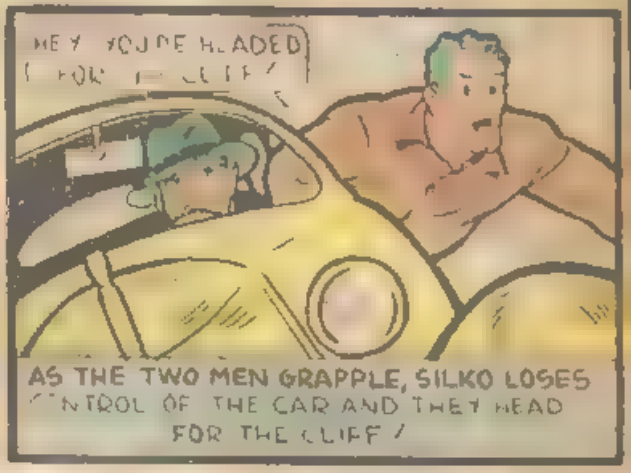

AND SEE THAT YOU GET THE DOUGH THIS TIME - I'LL WAIT HERE IN THE CAR
LEAVE IT TO US BOSS
SILKO AND HIS MEN ARRIVE AT THE GAS STATION, DETERMINED TO COLLECT THE MONEY


KAYO FACES THE THUGS AS THEY APPROACH
HERE THEY COME - AND IF THEY'RE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, THEY'LL FIND IT!
THIS MAY NOT BE SO EASY BOYS - LOOKS LIKE THE OLD MAN TOOK A DAY OFF!
WARD'S SERVICE STATION
DID YOUR OLD MAN LEAVE ANY DOUGH FOR US?
NO, BUT..
AS THE THUG SPEAKS
HE LEFT THIS INSTEAD!
AS THE THUGS OPEN FIRE UPON HIM KAYO TEARS INTO THEM WITH A FEROCIOUS SERIES OF BLOWS
I'LL TEACH YOU TO STEAL FROM HONEST PEOPLE!
KAYO FINISHES OFF THE LAST THUG
NICE WORK KAYO - YOU ROUNDED UP SILKO'S MOB!
SERVES THEM RIGHT!
ATTRACTED BY THE SHOTS, THE POLICE COME RUSHING IN TO TAKE OVER
IT'S SILKO - HE'S GETTING AWAY!
5


KAYO WHAT'S WRONG?
QUICK FOLLOW THAT CAR UP AHEAD!
JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME CONNIE DRIVES UP AS KAYO RUSHES TO THE CAR -


FASTER-CONNIE PULL UP ASIDE OF HIM
A MAD PURSUIT FOLLOWS-WITH KAYO AND CONNIE STEADILY GAINING ON SILKO'S SEDAN -

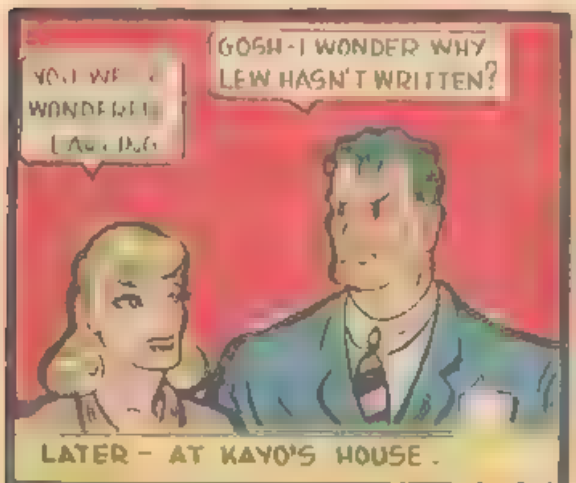
AND NOW TO SETTLE WITH YOU-BROTHER RAT!
CONNIE DOES A MASTERFUL PIECE OF DRIVING, AND THE CARS ARE NECK AND NECK, KAYO LEAPS MADLY THROUGH THE AIR


HEY YOU'RE HEADED FOR THE CLIFF!
AS THE TWO MEN GRAPPLE, SILKO LOSES CONTROL OF THE CAR AND THEY HEAD FOR THE CLIFF!

I SHOULD HAVE LEFT YOU IN THE CAR, BUT THAT WOULD BE TOO GOOD FOR YOU!
KAYO THINKS FAST, AND DECIDING TO LOOK AFTER THE CAR LATER, LEAPS FROM THE CAR AS IT GOES OVER THE CLIFF

AFTER A HARD FIGHT KAYO

HERE'S A PRESENT FOR YOU!
GREAT WORK- YOU'VE CAPTURED THE WHOLE GANG
JUST THEN THE POLICE ARRIVE ON THE SCENE

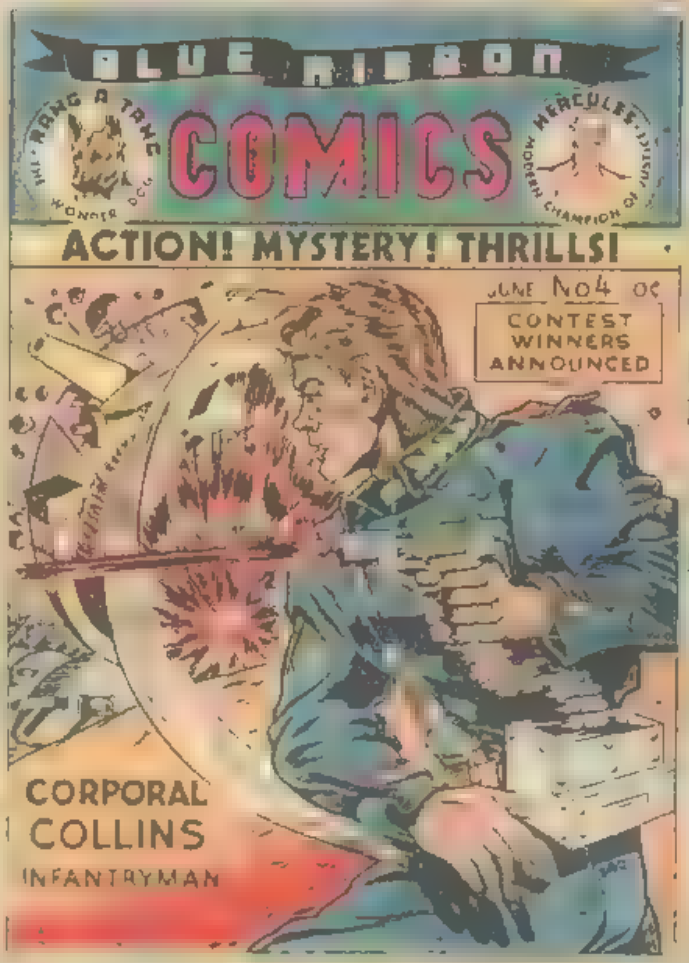

GOSH-I WONDER WHY LEW HASN'T WRITTEN?
YOU'VE BEEN WONDERFUL DARLING
LATER - AT KAYO'S HOUSE.

HEY, KAYO IT'S LEW! CALLING FROM NEW YORK, SAYS HE HAS SOME GOOD NEWS FOR YOU!
6
JUST THEN THE TELEPHONE RINGS BILLY ANSWERS.

WHAT NEWS
DON'T MISS NEXT ISSUE OF

# BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER BEFORE!

JUNE ISSUE NO. 4 ON SALE APRIL 10TH




WATCH FOR THE RANG-A-TANG CLUB AND THE RANG-A-TANG HONOR LEGION! CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

**RANG-A-TANG, THE WONDER DOG** BRINGS TO THE PAGES OF BLUE RIBBON COMICS, THE COURAGE AND DARING, THAT MADE RIN-TIN-TIN THE MOVIES MOST FAMOUS CHARACTER---- **RANG'S** SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE, HIS UNERRING SENSE OF SMELL AND HEARING TOGETHER WITH HIS KEEN EYESIGHT, MAKE HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS EQUAL EVEN TO THOSE OF MEN WHOSE EFFORTS IN THE DEFENCE OF LAW AND ORDER ARE WRITTEN IN THE MOST THRILLING PAGES OF HISTORY

## • SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT •

HERE ARE THE NEW EXCITING CHARACTERS IN THE NO.4 BLUE RIBBON COMICS

HERCULES — MODERN CHAMPION OF JUSTICE! THE GREEK GOD OF STRENGTH COMES TO LIFE TO BATTLE TODAYS FORCES OF EVIL —

CORPORAL COLLINS - INFANTRYMAN! TY GOR — SON OF THE TIGER! GYPSY JOHNSON — ADVENTURER! LOOP LOGAN — AIR ACE! DOC STRONG — AND THE ISLE OF RIGHT! THE FOX — DETECTIVE! THE GREEN FALCON — KNIGHT AND CRUSADER!

DON'T FAIL TO GET YOUR COPY OF THE JUNE ISSUE NO.4 BLUE RIBBON COMICS! ON SALE AT ALL NEWSSTANDS ABOUT APRIL 10TH

BENTLEY
of SCOTLAND YARD
AND THE
HUNCHBACK HORROR
AMONG INSPECTOR BENTLEY'S STRANGEST ADVENTURES WAS THAT WHICH BEFELL HIM AT THE BETHROTHAL PARTY OF THE YOUNG EARL OF CRACKENTHORPE TO THE LADY BRENDA, WHERE HE HEARD THE OLD LEGEND OF THE CRACKENTHORPE CURSE---
by SAM COOPER
YOU SAY, THEN, EARL, THAT YOU DON'T BELIEVE THIS FAMILY LEGEND?
IF I DID, INSPECTOR BENTLEY, I WOULDN'T BE SO HAPPY NOW!
I WOULDN'T, EITHER
ABOUT A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, ONE OF THE CRACKENTHORPES WAS A WIZARD. HE NEEDED TREAS-
A DEMON!
THE EARL OF CRACKENTHORPE TELLS THE STORY OF THE CURSE
THE MONEY WAS GIVEN-FOUNDING OUR FAMILY FORTUNE--- BUT THE DEMON DEMANDED A STRANGE SORT OF RETURN!
THE BRIDE OF EACH HEIR TO THE TITLE MUST GO TO THE CLOSED ROOM
HERE--AND MAKE HER BOW TO THE DEMON! THEY SAY MANY A BRIDE WAS SCARED TO DEATH!
OF COURSE THE OLD SUPERSTITION HASN'T BEEN FOLLOWED IN CENTURIES!
DOESN'T IT FRIGHTEN YOU LADY BRENDA?
NOT A BIT-- I'D FACE THE DEMON ANY TIME!

THE INTEREST OF THE PARTY IS ROUSED—
LET'S SEE YOU DO IT!
I DARE YOU, BRENDA!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT!
LADY BRENDA TAKES THE DARE!
ALL RIGHT, I'M GOING UP TO CALL ON MR. HUNCH-BACKED DEMON!
YOU SAY IT'S ONLY A LEGEND—BUT AREN'T YOU A TRIFLE SHAKY!
TO TELL THE TRUTH, I AM, INSPECTOR!
BELOW, THE EARL AND BENTLEY TALK. WHEN—
HELP! HELP!
IT'S BRENDA!
LET'S GO!
I'M COMING, BRENDA!
I'LL SAVE YOU, DEAR!
OH—THAT HORRIBLE THING!
THE EARL REACHES THE HAUNTED ROOM FIRST—
STOP, WHATEVER YOU ARE!
THE ROOM'S EMPTY!
AND THE DEMON—VANISHED!

LADY BRENDA, YOUR FIANCE' IS DEAD!
OH! AND HERE COMES HIS BROTHER LIONEL-- AND--
WHAT HAS HAP-PENED?
YOU SAY HIS LORDSHIP IS DEAD INSPECTOR? I'M HIS COUSIN, OSBERT BEALS, AND THIS IS HIS BROTHER, LIONEL!
AND I AM THE BUTLER, SIR, ---WIGGINS! MY POOR MASTER!
HMMM, ALL UP HEREAT THE TIME OF THE MURDER!
OH, NO SIR! I WAS DOWNSTAIRS SERVING THE GUESTS -- MR. OSBERT WAS THERE TOO WHEN LADY BRENDA CAME UP, BUT NOT MR. LIONEL!
WIGGINS AND I RAN UP AFTER YOU!
I'LL SMASH YOUR SNEERING FACE OSBERT!
EASY GENTLEMEN ---THERE'S BEEN ONE MURDER ALREADY
WHERE WERE YOU LIONEL?
I WONDER! YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH BRENDA, WEREN'T YOU?
I WAS UP HERE -- IN MY ROOM, BUT I DIDN'T KILL MY BROTHER!
WHEN HELP ARRIVES, BENTLEY MAKES A DISCOVERY!
GUARD THE DOORS MEN! KEEP THE GUESTS HERE -- WAIT, THE EARL'S BROTHER, LIONEL, HAS DISAPPEARED!
HE LEFT BEFORE THE POLICE CAME, IN-SPECTOR! HE LIVES IN LONDON!
IF HE'S GONE HOME, I'LL CATCH HIM THERE!
BENTLEY FOLLOWS THE MISSING MAN!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE RUN OFF LIKE THAT MR. LIONEL
I DIDN'T KILL MY BROTHER!

YOU SHOULD HELP ME, NOW YOU'RE EARL OF CRACKENTHORPE··· AND THEY SAY YOU LOVED YOUR BROTHER'S FIANCEE-
YOU THINK I KILLED HIM FOR THE TITLE-OR BRENDA? I DENY IT!
HE SEEMS OVERWROUGHT ---I WONDER IF ---
AFTER MUCH FRUITLESS QUESTIONING, BENTLEY LEAVES, WHEN---
--A WEIRD ASSAILANT DROPS UPON HIM!
WHAT A WALLOP!
A POWERFUL BLOW FELLS THE INSPECTOR, BUT ---
TAKE THAT!
---HE STILL FIGHTS BACK!
YOU HIT TOO HARD TO BE A SPIRIT!
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
I'VE BEEN THINKING OVER WHAT YOU SAID---I'M COMING BACK WITH YOU --- HAS THERE BEEN TROUBLE?
LIONEL SUDDENLY GREETS HIM AT THE DOOR!
I'LL FACE ANY CHARGES--BUT I INSIST THAT I'M INNOCENT!
I THINK EVERYTHING WILL BE SETTLED SOON!
THE TWO SPEED BACK TO CRACKENTHORPE MANOR
I'VE THOUGHT IT OUT--WE CAN REDUCE THE SUSPECTS TO THE THREE MEN WHO WERE UPSTAIRS--- LIONEL, OSBERT AND THE BUTLER!
BUT MR. OSBERT AND I WERE DOWN-STAIRS AT THE TIME
BENTLEY NARROWS THE FIELD OF SUSPECTS!

MAYBE SO-- BUT LET'S LOOK INTO THAT HAUNTED ROOM FIRST!
NOTHING HERE!
JUST AS I THOUGHT ..THE WALL SOUNDS HOLLOW!
THEY RE-ENTER THE STRANGE CHAMBER OF DEATH!
LADY BRENDA, DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE WIGGINS AND OSBERT WERE JUST BEFORE YOU CAME UP HERE?
WHY-WIGGINS WAS SERVING THE GUESTS--OSBERT SAT BESIDE THE FIREPLACE!
YOU ADMIT YOU WERE UP HERE IN YOUR ROOM AT THE TIME OF THE MURDER?
YES I WAS!
HE WAS HERE WHEN WIGGINS AND I CAME UP THE STAIRS!
WHAT WOULD THE EARL'S DEATH MEAN TO YOU ALL?
I WAS THE HEIR--EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT!
I WAS MENTIONED FOR A THOUSAND POUNDS IN HIS WILL
I GET NOTHING--I'M ONLY THE COUSIN!
OH LIONEL! I HOPE IT ISN'T YOU!
I KNOW IT LOOKS BAD, DEAR---BUT IF YOU CARE--
WAIT!
YOU CAN?
I KNOW WHO COMMITTED THE CRIME AND I CAN PROVE IT!
BENTLEY KNOWS THE MURDERER OF THE EARL OF CRACKENTHORPE--DO YOU?
Make Your Choice:
WAS IT WIGGINS THE BUTLER?....
LIONEL, HIS BROTHER AND HEIR?....
OSBERT, HIS COUSIN?.....
MIGHT IT HAVE BEEN LADY BRENDA HIS FIANCEE?.....
MARK X AFTER THE NAME OF THE ONE YOU THINK GUILTY; THEN TURN TO THE LAST PAGE OF THIS STORY AND SEE HOW BENTLEY SOLVED THE CRIME!

BENTLEY BEGINS TO SHOW THE WAY OF THE CRIME!
LOOK! HERE'S WHERE THE MONSTER DISAPPEARED --INTO THIS HIDDEN CORRIDOR! I SUSPECTED SOME SUCH DEVICE!
BY JOVE HE DID!
HERES THE RIG HE WORE TO FRIGHTEN BRENDA, AND KILL THE EARL!
LOOK! HERE'S AN IRON GLOVE THAT WOULD KILL ANYBODY WITH A BLOW!
BLESS MY SOUL, YES!
THIS PASSAGE LEADS DOWN TO THE HALL BELOW ---TO THE FIREPLACE!
YOU DID IT---YOU KNEW THE LEGEND AND THIS PASSAGE--- SLIPPED UP BY WAY OF THE FIRE-PLACE!
RIDICULOUS, WHAT WOULD I GAIN?
WITH THE EARL DEAD AND LIONEL EXECUTED FOR HIS MURDER, YOU'D COME INTO THE TITLE! SO YOU KILLED HIM ---TRIED TO FRAME LIONEL!
WELL-
YES, AND THEN FOLLOWED BENTLEY TO MY PLACE, TO INCRIMINATE ME FURTHER WITH YOUR ATTACK ON HIM!
I DID IT, YES --BUT I'LL DASH OUT YOUR BRAINS!
NO--ONCE TONIGHT IS ENOUGH!
Cooper
ALL THIS AWFUL EXPERIENCE SHOWED ME THAT I REALLY CARED FOR LIONEL!
ONLY DO YOUR DUTY BY YOUR NEW TITLE---AND BY LADY BRENDA!
HOW CAN I THANK YOU INSPECTOR?
AND AGAIN INSPECTOR BENTLEY HAS STRUCK A CRUSHING BLOW TO EVIL AND LAWLESSNESS!
Watch for Another Adventure of the SCOTLAND YARD ACE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS